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BY FRED BRAMANTE

GRANITE VIEWS

Money problems



Virtually every school district in America is feeling the strain of money problems. While, on the surface, one could argue that money problems and schools are an age-old story, the money problems of today are different. In the past, money problems might translate into smaller increases in teacher compensation, putting off the new track facility, or remodeling an old building instead of replacing it. Today's money problems have much more significant implications. All over America, teachers are fighting over collective bargaining rights, fearing not simply a smaller raise but actually losing their jobs.

Most would agree our schools already had issues that needed to be addressed. And now we find ourselves cutting programs and teachers from that already needy system. Some would say that we are making an already lacking system worse, and that this is a terrible tragedy for public education.

I disagree.

Our 20th-century model of public education, the cornerstone of which is a teacher delivering content inside a classroom, is an outdated model that, besides having quality issues, is financially unsustainable.

A 21st-century education system will not rely upon this stand-alone teacher-in-a-classroom model as the primary mode of learning. Today we have other methods of delivering content, including ways that today's digital-native students are more comfortable with than many of their teachers. Additionally there are many wonderful real-world opportunities for students to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to meet the needs of today and often at a cost that is less than doing it the old way.

Some argue that quality might be sacrificed by using these outside opportunities. Yet an Aug. 19, 2009, article in the New York Times titled "Study Finds that Online Education Beats the Classroom" claims that students retain 58 percent of what they were taught online versus 50 percent in classrooms. And would anyone argue that traditional classrooms will create future engineers better than Dean Kamen's FIRST Robotics program?

The answer is obvious. The old-fashioned teacher-in-front-of-students model of education isn't the only and surely not the best way to educate.

The sooner we transform away from a system anchored in traditional classrooms, especially at the high school level, the better off our kids will be educationally and our citizens will be financially. The current financial mess that America finds itself in, coupled with the accessibility of technology and real-world options, makes exactly the set of conditions necessary to encourage our school leaders to find better and more cost-effective ways for public education to fulfill its honorable mission. This will, ultimately, elevate the image of public education in the eyes of the public.

Though education may seem imperiled today, there is a brighter future ahead for it if we dare to make the necessary changes.

Fred Bramante is the past chairman and a current member of the New Hampshire State Board of Education.

12 Wine

Even if New Hampshire is not prime grape-growing country, there's nothing stopping us from squeezing other people's grapes into some mighty fine wine. Angel Roy talks to vintners here in the Granite State about what kinds of wine they make and why, and shows you where you can go to sample some wine with a true New Hampshire label.



Also on the cover: Some of the best chili in the world will be served in Veterans Park this weekend at the 2011 World's Championship chili contest. Get a detailed schedule and some great chili-making tips on page 38.

And run away and join the **circus** as BARNUM 200 brings clowns and elephants to the Queen City. Read all about it on page 30.

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NEWS & NOTES

News in Brief

• **Home sales better than a year ago:** Another month, another monthly increase in home sales. Home sales in the Granite State increased significantly for the second straight month compared to the same period last year, according to the New Hampshire Association of Realtors. Tom Riley, president of the NHAR, said comparisons are still influenced by the 2010 homebuyer tax credit and its expiration in June 2010. Still, he said two monthly increases in a row are a welcome change. “We don’t consider these large monthly increases to be quite as substantial as they might appear at face value, but we continue to believe that there is stabilization under way in the housing market,” Riley said. There were 1,120 residential home sales in New Hampshire in August, which marks a 14-percent increase from the 979 homes that were sold in August 2010. That comes on the heels of a 29-percent increase in unit sales for July, according to an Association press release. The median home price has remained stable at \$210,000 in August, which is a 2-percent drop from August 2010. A report from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority suggested August delinquency and foreclosure indicators showed improvement, the release said. Riley noted that future improvements are dependent on broader economic conditions, but he said recent news will help potential buyers and sellers breathe easier. “We continue to believe that fundamentals are sound in terms of home ownership being an excellent long-term economic and social investment,” Riley said. “Being that perception is reality, though, we hope that the recent news will help to move the broad perception more in line with what we believe to be the continued reality of the housing market.” August unit sales increased in eight of 10 counties, and four of 10 counties saw an increase in median home prices, the release said.

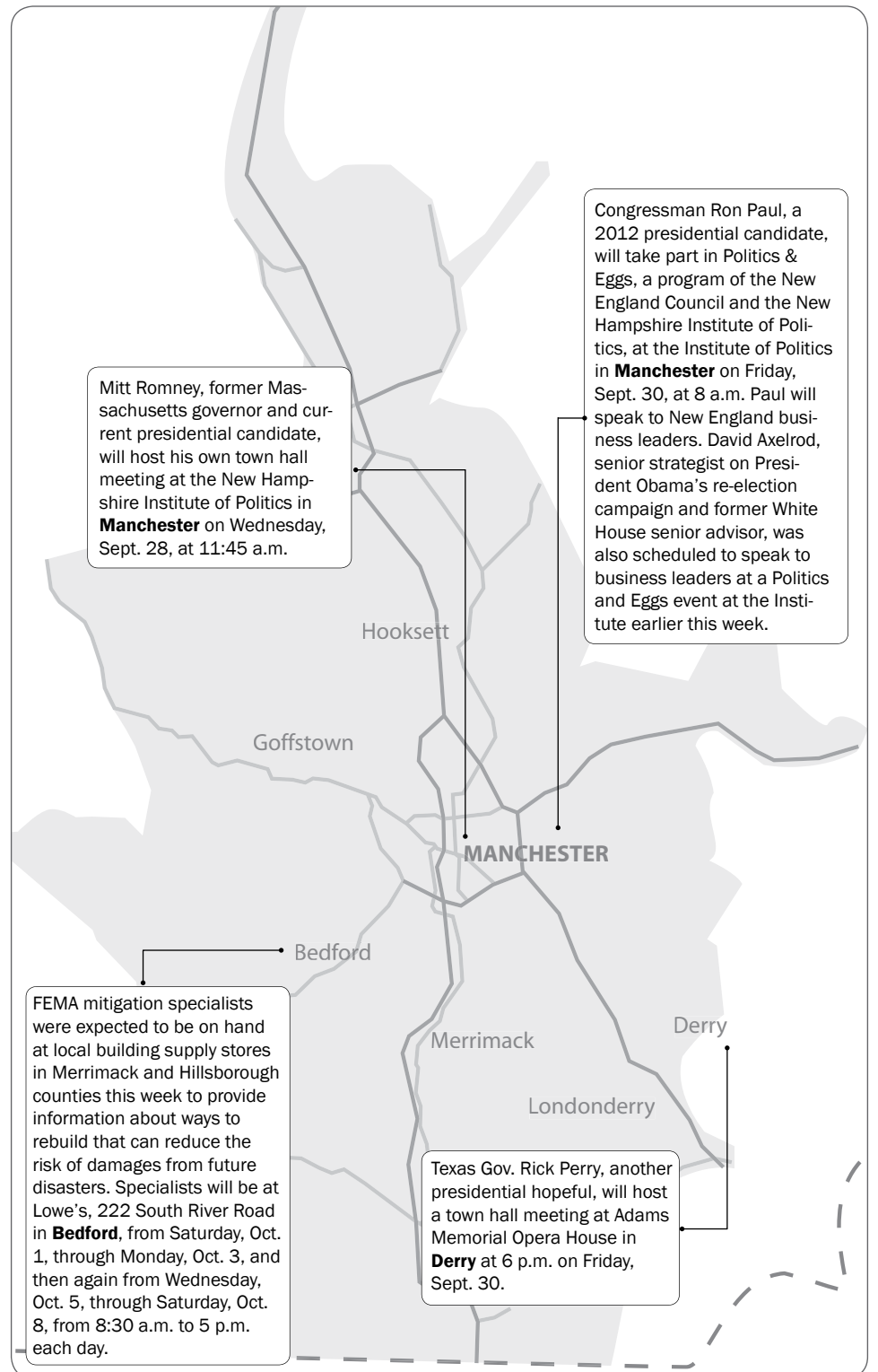
• **UNH decides not to sell energy drinks, then changes mind, possibly hopped up on energy drinks:** You won’t find energy drinks like Full Throttle, Red Bull and NOS on the University of New Hampshire campus come January — wait, maybe you will. After announcing in a press release on Monday, Sept. 26, that it would not sell energy drinks in campus vending machines or cafeterias, UNH issued another press release the following day stating that UNH President Mark Huddleston would delay implementation of the ban. Huddleston cited conflicting evidence about the health effects of consuming energy beverages, as well as student reactions to the announcement. “I respect the efforts of the staff in UNH Dining to present the healthiest possible choices in our food service and vending locations,” Huddleston said in a statement. “In this case, I am personally aware of conflicting reports about the caffeine and sugar content of some of these beverages, and I want to be sure we respect our students’ ability to make informed choices about what they consume. I have asked my colleagues to defer implementation of the intended ban until we can further explore the relevant facts and involve students more directly in our decision.” The overriding concern cited in the initial announcement was that the drinks tend to be abused by college-age students who sometimes consume too many of them or mix them

with alcohol, which can mask symptoms of intoxication. Huddleston said he wanted more data about usage among UNH students before making a final decision. “These products, while legal and safe when consumed as intended, have been proven unsafe when overused or mixed with alcohol,” said David May, assistant vice president for business affairs, in the initial press release. “Just recently there was an incident on campus involving energy drinks that helped send a student to the hospital. At UNH their sale accounts for just one half of one percent of our retail sales, and keeping our students safe and healthy is certainly worth much more than that.” The New Hampshire Higher Education Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Survey last spring found that 20 percent of UNH students reported they had mixed alcohol and energy drinks during the last 30 days. Energy drinks contain more caffeine than soft drinks, plus large amounts of sugar and additional ingredients that claim to boost energy, the release said. UNH Dining, which oversees seven retail and three dining hall locations, will continue participating in UNH’s effort to become the healthiest campus community in the country by 2020. It has already incorporated local products into menus, provided healthier options in vending machines, eliminated trans fats from offerings, removed salt shakers from tables and reduced sodium in many of its recipes. Officials are studying how to reduce the amount of high fructose corn syrup that is served, the release said.

• **Business caucus names vice chairman:** State Rep. Brian Murphy, R-Rye, was recently named vice chairman of the New Hampshire House Business Coalition. The Coalition is a bipartisan caucus focused on developing and supporting legislation that promotes job creation and business development in New Hampshire. Murphy said in a statement that job growth and improving the economy must continue to be the legislature’s priority. The Coalition was founded in January by Rep. Laurie Sanborn, R-Henniker. The group reviews all legislation in the House for its potential impact on the state’s business climate, and makes recommendations to the full legislative body. The Coalition, which consists of more than 100 representatives, supported and influenced the passage of more than 30 pro-business initiatives. Murphy is a former Massachusetts special assistant attorney general and is currently the chief legal officer for SIAA Inc. in Hampton. He is also president of Castlebridge Risk Management, an affiliate of SIAA.

• **Leishman wins Hillsborough election:** Democrats scored another special election victory last week when Peter Leishman won a special election in Hillsborough District 3. Leishman defeated David Simpson by garnering about 60 percent of the vote. Democrats have been successful in special elections this year, winning three and losing just one so far. Leishman will fill the seat of Robert Huxley, who resigned in March.

• **Hillcrest Terrace expands, changes name:** Coinciding with the planned expansion of residential living and care and service offerings for seniors on its campus, Hillcrest Terrace announced earlier this month the community will now be known as Birch Hill Terrace. The expansion of the senior living community began early this year and will continue through next



year. Birch Hill Terrace is the only nonprofit continuing care retirement community in the greater Manchester area. The community will offer cottage-style living options and a variety of expanded services and amenities, including a new clubhouse in 2012. The facility offers 138 independent living apartments, as well as a variety of health care options. The expansion will include 22 cottage-style homes. Visit www.birchhillterrace.com.

• **New Goodwill store in Manchester — used computers accepted:** Goodwill Industries of Northern New England celebrated the grand opening of its new Manchester store and donation center on Thursday, Sept. 22. Gov. John Lynch was there to share remarks and cut the ceremonial ribbon. The new store is located at the former bingo hall at 165 John E. Devine Drive, next to Hannaford and near the Mall of New Hampshire. The building is totally renovated and features a donation drive-thru and several environmentally friendly aspects, including an energy-efficient HVAC system, polished concrete floors (which eliminate the need for harsh

chemical cleaners) and large windows to reduce electricity usage, according to a Goodwill press release. The building is engineered for Energy Star compliance, which means Goodwill will be able to apply for Energy Star status after one year of operation. The new store also accepts used computer equipment through the ReConnect computer recycling program. Since the program launched in 2009, Goodwill has kept more than three million pounds of computers and equipment out of landfills, the release said. The building is 19,250 square feet, with nearly 14,000 square feet dedicated to retail sales. Located on a city bus route and with ample parking, the new store is accessible to members of the greater Manchester community. The store and donation center are open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday. Visit www.goodwillnne.org/blog for Goodwill’s “Thrifting Adventures” blog. The new store will employ nearly 60 full- and part-time staffers.

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New bishop chosen for Manchester diocese

Libasci to be installed in December, replacing McCormack

By Jeff Mucciarone
 jmucciarone@hippopress.com

The transition from one bishop to another in any diocese is a big moment, an opportunity to refresh and in some cases revive parishes.

Incoming Bishop Peter Libasci, 59, has that opportunity in New Hampshire. He's slated to be installed as the 10th bishop of Manchester on Dec. 8. He'll take over from Bishop John McCormack, who has presided over the Catholic Church in New Hampshire since 1998 and whose tenure was sometimes troubled, mainly due to his involvement in the cover-up of the priest sex abuse crisis in the Archdiocese of Boston.

"Every time there's a transition, it's a big deal," said Michele Dillon, a Catholic scholar at the University of New Hampshire. "It's an interesting time, a time of new energy and refreshment, a chance to re-energize the Catholic faithful. It's up to the new bishop to take an active leadership role, building up his credibility."

Libasci, who hails from New York and who has been pastor of St. Therese of Lisieux parish in Montauk, N.Y., since 1999, will be looked upon to steer the church's ship into the future and away from the crisis that rocked much of New England. Since 2007, Libasci served as auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Rockville Centre in New York.

The sex abuse crisis that erupted in the early part of the last decade will leave a stain on McCormack's tenure. McCormack worked under Cardinal Bernard Law in Boston as the crisis was happening. McCormack has apologized publicly for his role in the crisis.

"That will cast a pall over him and the leadership," Dillon said. "Obviously, many people are unhappy with what he's done."

Still, in spite of McCormack's role, Dillon thinks many parishioners feel McCormack did his best, though many will have expected a lot more.

"I think people think he did a fair job," Dillon said. "He wasn't one of those leaders who was very much in the public eye. He kept a relatively low profile. He managed to steer the church in New Hampshire in a time of social change not just in the church."

New Hampshire has done fairly well economically and the state has experienced population growth during McCormack's tenure. McCormack did anger some in Manchester as he supported Catholic Medical Center's exploring an affiliation or merger with Dartmouth-Hitchcock. The affiliation effort fell apart amid legal questions.

"He has managed to keep the church relevant in his time," Dillon said. "He doesn't have a flashing record, as such. It's more of a steady hand."

Dillon said she thought McCormack did well in advancing the church's core missions of helping the poor and reaching out to families in need.

But now it's time to turn the page.

"The church is moving on in general," Dillon said. "The sex abuse crisis can't be erased, and it shouldn't. There are important lessons to be learned. But the church is moving forward with a new bishop. I do think it's an opportunity for growth and for some new energy to be injected into the church."

"When, in 2007, I was told that I was cho-

sen to be an Auxiliary Bishop for the Diocese of Rockville Centre, I was overwhelmed at the thought that anyone knew that I even existed," Libasci said in a statement. "And now, four years later, I have been called, yet again, but now to be the Bishop and Shepherd of the Church, the Household of Faith in what will be for me a new home, a new family, a new beginning in Grace."

Libasci said he is coming eagerly to New Hampshire and looks forward to meeting New Hampshire's parishioners.

Libasci is a relative unknown to the people of New Hampshire. For that reason, it's important for him to get out there and get to know the state, Dillon said.

"The North Country is different from what you'd see in Manchester," Dillon said. "I hope he gets out there and meets the parishes. I think all bishops should do that, but this is a very opportune moment for him. It's a moment to listen to what [is] on the minds of parishioners across New Hampshire."

In the same way that presidential candidates are tramping through the state on the way to the presidential primary next year, the bishop can do the same. The state is small enough, geographically speaking, that leaders can actually get out and see people.

"We've got this great tradition of the New Hampshire primary, and the church could borrow a lesson from that," Dillon said.

While parishioners probably don't look to the bishop as a political figure, they do expect him to have a voice. A controversy ensued earlier this year when House Majority Leader D.J. Bettencourt wrote, citing McCormack's role in the sex abuse scandal, on his Facebook page that McCormack was a "pedophile pimp." Bettencourt wrote it after McCormack spoke at a rally at the Statehouse urging lawmakers to restore budget cuts to the state's most vulnerable citizens. Given McCormack's role in the sex abuse crisis, Bettencourt suggested he had no moral standing to speak.

But Dillon said Catholics want a leader who can articulate the church's position on issues. The church is an institution in the state and, yes, there is separation of church and state, but Catholics still deserve a voice at the table, Dillon said.

"They expect him to be there making the church's voice heard," Dillon said. "New Hampshire in general is doing very well but there are still lots of people in poverty. It's the moral responsibility of the bishop to participate, but to do it without trying to be a shrill voice. He's there to be a voice for those who don't have a voice."

For Libasci, moving to New Hampshire is a major change. He's already used to one area of the country, New York. The culture is different here, including the more libertarian political attitude New Hampshire has.

"It's exciting for him, I hope," Dillon said. "Obviously, it will take some time to adjust. People will wish him well and they'll try to make his job easier, as long as he's receptive toward them and getting out there and meeting people."

The biggest issue facing Libasci is a shortage of priests. Some parishes have closed down, because there aren't sufficient populations to keep them viable in some cases. It will be a challenge for Libasci to help build parishes back up, to bring that unity to different local



Incoming Bishop Peter Libasci with current Bishop John McCormack. Courtesy photo.

identities, Dillon said. There has been an ongoing challenge to reconfigure parishes, not just in New Hampshire but throughout the region.

Regardless of where Catholics fall politically or socially, Mass is at the core of their religious worship. With a shortage of priests, which Dillon said is reaching acute stages, there can be fewer Masses available to parishioners.

"Can [Libasci] take a leadership role for bishops across the United States, and develop some kind of creative solution?" Dillon wondered.

As young families migrate into New Hampshire, many see a solid religious education as important. Dillon said some say the whole church socialization process needs to be reimagined. It's another challenge, simply, that many young people are leaving religion in general, not only Catholicism. It's a challenge to get those younger folks back to help make it a more vibrant church, Dillon said.

"Sometimes the old ways don't work in a high-tech society," Dillon said, adding it raises a lot of questions regarding how people imagine their religions and how they get their "spiritual nourishment."

Reaching out to and connecting with younger parishioners is not just an opportunity for Libasci; it's a necessity. And to do it, the church needs to continue building up its presence online, specifically with social media, like Facebook and Twitter. The church has encouraged the use of e-mail and parishes have done fairly well creating strong, user-friendly websites.

"We're already seeing a lot of parishes making efforts," Dillon said.

Still, getting young folks to read e-mails from church officials could be difficult. That's where the face-to-face contact is important. A bishop is sort of set apart from the people, but it's important to connect with people. Perhaps Libasci will find the right combination of face-to-face contact and technological presence, Dillon said.

"The church is going to need to use social media if they're going to be successful re-engaging young people."

"New Hampshire is not the most religious state in the country," Dillon said. "At the same time, there is a deep commitment to the institution.... For many, it's still a very important institution."



Reform candidate

Hippo sits down with Buddy Roemer

By Adam Coughlin and Jeff Mucciarone
news@hippopress.com

Buddy Roemer isn't running a conventional campaign for president. That works for him because he's not really a conventional candidate.

His message is simple: "I get things done."

The former Louisiana governor and Harvard graduate looked around and saw a weak GOP field, at a time when the need is great. He's the only candidate who has been both a Congressman and a governor. He doesn't shy away from the fact that he hasn't been directly involved with politics for two decades — Roemer was governor from 1988 to 1992.

But the 67-year-old wasn't sitting on his hands during that time. He's been running a Louisiana bank, a bank he initially turned around. He'd like the chance to do the same for this country.

He's lived all of his life to get to this moment, he says. "New Hampshire doesn't want business as usual," Roemer said during an interview with the Hippo in late August.

Roemer is sick of the corruption in Washington, D.C. He figures all the candidates are bought and paid for by special interests. Prior to the fall of Wall Street in the recent recession, Goldman Sachs was the largest contributor to both political parties, he said.

"No wonder there's no change," Roemer said.

Roemer said he won't take more than \$100 per contributor and no money from political action committees. He was elected to Congress the same way — no PAC money.

"I'm running to be free to lead," Roemer said.

He figures he needs one million families nationwide to donate \$100 each. His average contribution is about \$80 per person. Roemer, who took up residence in a Manchester apartment, spends between \$30,000 and \$50,000 each month. He has no campaign debt and he has a couple months' worth of expenses in the bank. That's how he likes to run a business as well.

Whether it was in education, corruption, the environment or business, Roemer said he cleaned up his state during his tenure as governor. Roemer places great importance on the environment, keeping air and water clean. During his tenure as governor, Louisiana was recognized for its environmental efforts.

"I know how to do this," Roemer said. "In happy times, I don't know that I'm your guy."

It's reform this country needs, Roemer says, health care reform, bank reform and trade reform. It's not fair that the United States has to compete with countries like China and India, where there are insufficient environmental standards and there is child labor, he said.

"This is my issue, no one else is talking about it," Roemer said.

He says the current war is with China, over jobs. As president, he'd look to change the tax code to allow the U.S. to compete with other countries, like China.

Roemer isn't much of a party person, he says. Don't get him wrong; he's proud to be a Republican. He's just not all that worried about whether people have an R or a D next to their names. After all, he used to be a Democrat. In fact, he said he's the only governor ever to have switched his party affiliation, from Democrat to Republican, while he was in office. Roemer said he switched parties because he got tired of little action and big taxes from the Democrats.

"I'm not running to rebuild a party; I'm running to rebuild a nation," Roemer said.

Roemer's parents raised him to serve, to make sure to give back. A diabetic, he couldn't join the military. So he turned to politics. Roemer said he was the only Democratic representative to vote against Tip O'Neill to be House speaker. President Ronald Reagan told Roemer he'd one day be president, but he needed to build up his credentials and become a governor — and he needed to switch parties. Roemer heeded Reagan's advice.

Since President Bill Clinton signed a repeal of portions of the Glass-Steagall Act in 1999, there are one million fewer jobs and four million more people, Roemer said. Repealing the act essentially



Buddy Roemer. Courtesy photo.

removed distinctions between commercial and investment banks, and "it's been downhill ever since," Roemer said.

While Rick Perry vaulted to the top of the polls following the buildup of his campaign roll-out, Roemer said his move up the polls will happen differently. It'll take a little longer.

"I'm different," he says.

So far, he sees the groundswell slowly taking shape. After a month of campaigning in New Hampshire, Roemer said he had about 4-percent name recognition in polls, with about 2 percent of people saying they'd vote for him. That might not sound like much, but he says it's just the beginning.

He predicted that the race still has room for him to make his move.

"There will come a tipping point ... where Roemer will be the guy," Roemer said. "He's been tested. He's been beaten. He's been down. Obviously, he's the guy."

When he was a young man visiting the state for the first time to go skiing, Roemer said, the "Live Free or Die" motto stuck with him.

He's hoping to get to take part in a debate. He's shooting to make it onto the debate stage in October.

"If I get a chance to make my case," Roemer said, "watch out."

HIPPO POLITICS

Teapublicans unite — or divide

A look at the relationship between Republicanism and tea partying in NH

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

The controversy over the chairmanship of the state Republican party got lots of attention last month. It was pitted as a battle between the Republican establishment in New Hampshire and the newer, liberty-minded, tea party folks in New Hampshire.



There were those who said the controversy created a rift in the state Republican party.

That characterization of the battle, which resulted in Jack Kimball's resigning as chairman moments

before he would have been voted out by the executive committee anyway, may or may not be correct, but either way, it hasn't affected the business of the New Hampshire Tea Party Coalition.

For the Coalition, it's business as usual, and business is very good. In the last month, the Tea Party Coalition saw three local Tea

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Party groups open up — in Nashua, in Merrimack and a joint organization in Barrington, Lee and Madbury. Jane Aitken of the New Hampshire Tea Party Coalition has had five other states' tea party groups call to see how the New Hampshire operation functions.

But Tea Party leaders say the Coalition has no quarrel with the state GOP, even though Kimball identified himself as a tea partier and even though many saw Kimball's overthrow as the GOP establishment pushing back on the tea party movement.

Aitken took issue with a recent op-ed in the Union Leader by former state GOP chairman Fergus Cullen, in which Cullen wrote there were just 1,000 members of the New Hampshire Tea Party. Aitken said a better picture of the Tea Party's popularity and influence would be to take a look at the many groups that support the Tea Party. She remembered a protest in Manchester with about 4,000 people. The tea party movement has been happening since 2007 in the Granite State.

"It's not just one group," Aitken said, adding there are thousands of tea partiers in the Granite State. "There's certainly something going on underneath."

"Presidential candidates and the media have overestimated the size and influence of the Tea Party," Cullen wrote in the Union Leader. "They have treated a small number of vocal activists as though they control large numbers of votes. In reality there may be fewer than 1,000 Tea Party activists statewide. It takes more than an angry blog and frequent Facebook status updates to be a leader. It also takes followers."

Cullen asserted in the op-ed that support for the Tea Party sentiment is greater than actual membership. Cullen points to polling data that suggests about half of Republicans in New Hampshire support the Tea Party. But Cullen also wrote that 7 percent of primary voters identified themselves as Tea Partiers, according to University of New Hampshire polling.

The tea party is not part of the Republican party, though politically it is often lumped in with the GOP. The intention is to remain separate, Aitken said. The New Hampshire Tea Party Coalition is not affiliated with the national Tea Party organization. There are no anointed leaders of the New Hampshire tea party movement.

"We're not here to be an arm of the GOP," Aitken said. "We're here to vet all candidates."

In fact, the Coalition doesn't see the GOP chairmanship as a political position. Coalition leaders aren't happy with how things played out — it wasn't particularly pleasant for anyone involved — but they thought the idea that establishment Republicans were at war with the Tea Party in New Hampshire was a stretch, to say the least.

"It's a difficult administrative job," Aitken said of the GOP chairmanship. "We just felt badly that some people wanted to make a war out of it."

The tea party movement played a big role, nationally and in New Hampshire, in 2010, when many Republican lawmakers were elected to office. Many of those elected would be associated with the tea party. Aitken said even former governor John Sununu, who was then chairman of the

state GOP, thanked the grassroots efforts of the liberty-minded Republicans in New Hampshire following the 2010 elections. Some reporters and bloggers suggested Sununu may have been working behind the scenes against Kimball after Sununu's hand-picked successor wasn't chosen for the chairmanship.

Educator first

The political system is a two-party system. Anyone can say they're a Republican or a Democrat and the party essentially has to support them, Aitken said.

"There's no litmus test," Aitken said. "The tea party is there to be that litmus test for values.... Staying separate and vetting those issues, we can do things that, being part of a party, we could not do."

A Republican candidate, Kevin Janvrin, recently won a special election for state representative though many see Janvrin as having some anti-Republican stances. James Pindell of WMURPoliticalScoop.com quoted Janvrin as saying his victory sends "the message that the tea party needs to get out of New Hampshire."

"We understand the GOP is a party and they have to support the person who has an R after their name," Aitken said.

But the tea party doesn't. The Coalition doesn't endorse candidates, but the Coalition will pick out particular issues and make sure voters know where candidates stand on those issues: "Alright, here is an issue we care about, let's see what each candidate thinks about it," Aitken said. "And then it's up to the people to make the right decision. In that way, we're empowering people to make the right decision." The Coalition in New Hampshire would never think of telling someone who to vote for. The Tea Party Coalition wants to be like the Better Business Bureau, a place where people can go to get information on different candidates and issues, Aitken said.

Moving forward

The situation with Kimball was unfortunate but it hasn't had any impact on the New Hampshire Tea Party Coalition, members say.

"No, not at all," Aitken said. "We're just continuing the work we've always done, communication, education, activism, getting the word out. That's ongoing. ... More people are signing up every day to get information on events and activities. I haven't slowed down one bit."

"We felt badly about what happened with the chair," Aitken said. "I don't know what particularly went wrong, but people obviously weren't happy with the job he was doing. ... We don't view it as a war between the Tea Party and the establishment. Frankly, the establishment is outnumbered. That's not a political position. There's no ill feeling toward the establishment or Kimball. We just kind of saw how it played out and we were hoping for the best."

People are often interested in particular issues, such as taxation or the 10th Amendment. Aitken said the Tea Party Coalition always directs people to local groups where they can make the most difference, such as a local taxpayers group.

"There's something for everyone," Aitken said. "We try to promote them all."

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Jane has been cancer-free for two years and she urges women to perform monthly breast exams and have annual mammograms.

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QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

SEPTEMBER 29, 2011

How low can you go?

Gas prices continue to fall both nationally and in New Hampshire. Last week, the average price of a gallon of gas in the Granite State fell nearly six cents, according to NewHampshireGasPrice.com. That means gas is an average of \$3.54 a gallon, just about at the national average of \$3.53 a gallon.

QOL score: +1

Comment: *Walking is still cheaper.*

Summer is over but mosquitoes are still buzzing

The state Department of Health and Human Services recently announced the finding of a batch of mosquitoes positive for West Nile Virus in Portsmouth — it's the eighth mosquito batch positive for West Nile Virus this season (at least one batch in Manchester tested positive in August) and the first in Portsmouth since 2009, according to DHHS. The finding has caused the Division of Public Health Services to raise the arboviral risk level for human illness in Portsmouth from "Remote" to "Low." Visit www.dhhs.nh.gov.

QOL score: -2

Comment: *"This ... underscores the importance of using precautions, especially repellent, until the season ends with a hard frost statewide," said Dr. José Montero, Director of Public Health at DHHS, in a statement.*

Bass and Guinta on a dubious list

Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington put Reps. Charlie Bass and Frank Guinta on their "2011 Most Corrupt" list of U.S. senators and Congressmen. Bass made the list for "seeking preferential treatment for his nephew's business" and Guinta made it for loans he made to his 2010 campaign, according to the group's report. The non-profit organization maintains it is nonpartisan though it is described in media reports as left-leaning. The list includes 14 lawmakers in all, four Democrats and 10 Republicans. It's the seventh time the organization has published the report. Visit www.crewsmostcorrupt.org.

QOL score: -2

Comment: *New Hampshire, New York, California and Florida were the only states to have more than one lawmaker make the list.*

They didn't actually look at anyone's brain, but...

New Hampshire has the nation's sixth-best brain health, according to efforts sponsored by the National Center for Creative Aging and life'sDHA (a nutritional products company), which led a state-by-state examination to find the nation's healthiest brains. The results were based on assessments of diet, physical health, mental health and social well-being. The top 10 looked like this: Maryland, D.C., Washington, Colorado, Vermont, New Hampshire, Oregon, Utah, Maine and New Jersey. Check out the study at www.beautiful-minds.com/AmericasBrainHealthIndex.

QOL score: +1

Comment: *Our strengths, study authors say, are our high consumption of fish rich in DHA (an omega-3 fatty acid), high consumption of fruits and vegetables, and a good number of "active game players."*

The wrong kind of first in the nation

It is widely known that America's first documented serial killer, the infamous H.H. Holmes, who confessed to murdering dozens of people in Chicago in a "death castle" in the 1880s, was born in Gilmanton. (His crimes were the focus of the book *The Devil in the White City*.) At that time he was known as Herman Mudgett. Now Mudgett's great-great-grandson, Jeff Mudgett, has written a book called *Bloodstains* in which he accuses his great-great-grandfather of not only being America's first serial killer but also of being Jack the Ripper. The book (billed on the cover as being "based on a true story") is available in paperback via www.bloodstainsthebook.com and on Amazon for the Kindle.

QOL score: -1 (for increased infamy in our list of Granite State celebrities)

Comments: *Quick, someone give Seth Meyers a Golden Globe or something to tip the balance toward "good celebrities."*

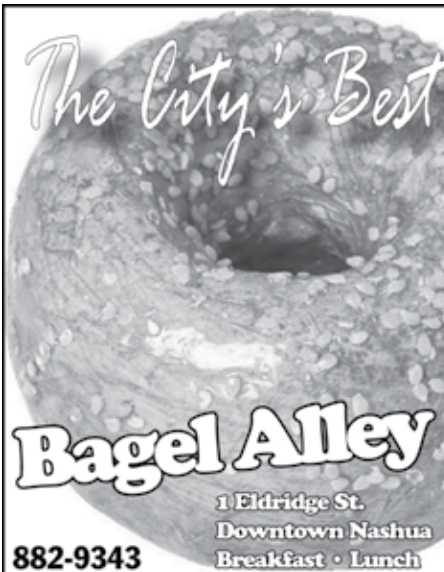
QOL score: 80

Net change: -3

QOL this week: 77

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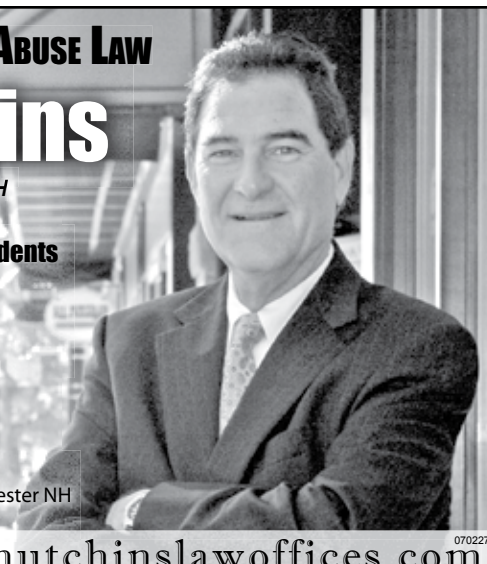
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LONGSHOTS

Baseball wraps up the regular season



Right up until **Jacob Ellsbury** maybe saved the season with that three-run homer in the 14th late on Sunday night I was going to write about the Red Sox collapse for today. We'll know

whether he did finish the collapse off or not by the time you read this, but since I think he did save it, I'll hold off on that. In the meantime, with the regular season concluding as this column hits the streets here are some thoughts on a season that produced no real pennant race drama but did have its share of weird happenings and some pretty sensational individual seasons.

Since wins aren't important to them, I can't wait to see the rationale from the stats geeks if **Justin Verlander** somehow doesn't win the Cy Young Award. Probably something to do with diminishing the 24 wins because his team was too good — since they can't get him on the 0.92 WHIP cause it's best in baseball and his 2.40 ERA led the AL.

So since wins don't matter to them, I guess I still have a chance for my pick of **Clay Buchholz** to win the Cy Young to come true.

I don't like taking streaks into the post season, so if I were a Tigers fan I'd be worried that their closer **Jose Valverde** was a sensational 47 for 47 in his save opportunities.

But to tick off the guys who think **Felix Hernandez** and his 12 wins deserved the CY a year ago, I think a guy with a 2.30 and .199 batting average against and who was 47 for 47 for a team that kinda sorta came out of nowhere to win their division earns my second-place vote on the CY behind Justin V.

Nice to see **Chris Carpenter** re-upped for two more years and \$20 million by the Cardinals. Now all they need to do is find another \$200 million or so to sign **Albert Pujols**.

What do you suppose Pujols would hit in Fenway? I mean just think, if the Sox hadn't dropped the \$270 million on **Carl Crawford** and **Adrian Gonzalez** last winter, they could have given it to Pujols and still had **Anthony Rizzo**, **Casey Kelly** and **Reymond Fuentes** to get the starter they'll need for 2012.

Here's what Theo's \$290 million spent on Crawford and Gonzalez bought him vs. their two biggest rivals: Gonzo was 5 for 56 with

1 homer and 4 RBI in the last 13 games with the Yanks and Rays, while Crawford hit .256 against the Yanks and .224 against his old club.

While my pre-season prediction had him hitting .320, can't say I expected anything close to 30 homers and 100 runs batted in from Ellsbury. Anyone see that coming?

While many will make a big deal about Ells becoming the first 30-homer 30-steal guy in Red Sox history, the 30-100 thing from the lead-off spot is much more significant. I checked **Ricky Henderson**, **Tim Lincecum**, **Lou Brock**, **Honus Wagner**, **Ty Cobb** and every other great player who hit lead-off at some time in his career and I could find no one who did it. The only one close was **Bobby Bonds** in 1971, who was leading off early in the year but was hitting third and fourth by July, so his 33 and 103 don't count. Unless someone can show me a guy who has, he's the first to ever do that, making a great season even more amazing.

By the way, here's the unintended consequence of signing the disappointing-in-year-one Crawford. Since he never had a year close to what Ellsbury had this year, the market for Ellsbury is set at a minimum of seven years and \$150 million. And since the Michael Jordan of agents, **Scott Boras**, is his agent, bet on two things: he goes to free agency AND he gets at least that much. So with Crawford, **A-Gone** and **John Lackey** on board with their big-money deals, will the Sox have enough left in cupboard to keep him?

Speaking of not seeing things coming, who out there saw Red Sox catching combining to hit 27 homers and knock in 92 runs? Theo gets credit for that one.

I was wrong about **Jonathan Papelbon**. I wanted to trade him after 2009 'cause I thought his slide would continue unabated, but he's come back to have a terrific year. Now the question is: will Theo give him the dough with **Daniel Bard** in the wings and a host of closers on the market this winter?

Weird year for **Dan Uggla**, who hit just .233 despite having had a 32-game hitting streak in part because he was hitting just .173 when it started on July 5.

With **Roy Halladay**, **Cole Hamels** and **Cliff Lee** finishing 2-3-4 in WHIP and 2-3-5 in ERA, the Phillies pitching so far has lived

up to the hype, hasn't it?

Ditto for **Jose Bautista**, who followed up his out-of-nowhere 54-home-run season with 43 as I write this. That's a better follow-up than **Roger Maris** had in hitting 33 in '62 after he hit 61 in '61.

I ain't buying **Brian Cashman's** story about having dinner with the agent to drive up the price on Crawford. I just think after a good year after standing pat he's padding his count to rub it in.

And it's a good thing he gave up on **Ian Kennedy** enough to include him in the three-way deal with the Tigers and Arizona that brought Granderson, because by going 21-4 for the D-Backs at just 26 he'd be a nice number 2 going forward between **CC (señor) Sabathia** and 24-year-old **Ivan Nova**, who looks to be a keeper after going 16-4 in 2011.

Crawford will probably improve as Granderson did in Year Two after a so-so Year One in New York, but here's one more set of numbers. With three games left, for Crawford it's .258, 64 runs, 29 doubles, 11 homers, 56 RBI and 18 steals. For **Johnny Damon**, .261, 77 runs, 29 doubles, 16 homers, 71 RBI, 19 steals. Damon cost the Rays \$5.2 million, Crawford \$20 million.

Speaking of Granderson, I've got him number 2 in the AL MVP between Ellsbury at 3 and Verlander at number 1 — whose 24 wins in a 32-start season projects to 30 if he had the same 41 starts **Dennis McLain** had in 1968 when he won 31.

Two more things on Damon. The closest he got to 30-100 as a lead-off hitter was his 20-90-302 submission when the Sox ended the curse in 2004. Second, is he a Hall of Famer? If you say no, do you know if he hangs in for two more years like he had in 2011 when he had 149 hits, which seems possible, he'll go over 3,000 in a 19-year career? I would think that would get him in.

And here's my prediction: the Sox meet the Rays on Thursday in a playoff — **John Lackey** vs. **Jeff (HEL-low) Niemann** — YIKES!

Dave Long can be e-mailed at dlong@hippopress.com. He hosts Saturday Morning Sports with Dave Long from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays on WGAM — The Game 1250-AM in Manchester and 900-AM in Nashua.

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PEOPLE, PLACES & OTHER STUFF

Sports Glossary

Bobby Bonds: Father of Barry and supposed to be successor to Willie in S.F. after jumping out of the box in 1969 to hit 32 homers, knock in 92 and steal 46 bases as he became baseball's first 30-30 man his first full season in the majors. Although the numbers stayed pretty close to that over the next five years, when he dipped to 21 and 71 he was traded to the Yanks, who sent him to the Angels a year later despite a 32-85 submission in a deal that brought back the infamous to Red Sox Nation Mickey Rivers. After that he bounced around the majors, ending a 14-year career with 336 homers and 461 steals.

Honus Wagner: Thick-legged Pirates shortstop from the early days when he was the team's first dominant player of the 20th century. Hit .328 lifetime while winning eight batting titles between 1900 and 1911 and drove in 100 or more nine times despite playing in the dead ball era. Also the figure on the most expensive baseball card ever purchased. His 1909 tobacco card — which, by the way, was once owned by another great one, Wayne Gretzky — sold for \$2.35 million to a California collector in 2007.

Ty Cobb: Baseball all-time all-timer and subject of a great-for-baseball-fans film titled just "Cobb." Former Harvard footballer Tommy Lee Jones stars in the title role and nails the intensity and ferocity of the most hated man in baseball at the time, or perhaps any time. It's set in the waning years of his life and does the baseball scenes in black and white flashbacks that are just great to earn two thumbs up from this critic. And I'll bet you didn't know Jones' Harvard roommate was Internet inventor Al Gore.

Dennis McLain: Last to win 30 games in the majors, when he was 31-6 in leading the Tigers to the World Series in 1968. At a time when men were men, he started 41 games, completed 28, and threw 336 innings with a 1.96 ERA as he won the first of two Cy Youngs. The second came a year later when he shared it with Baltimore's Mike Cuellar after going 24-9. But it was downhill after that as after being suspended for hanging with gamblers he was 3-5 in 1970 and then 10-22 with the Senators in '71. The post career has been, ah, rocky, as he's done two stints in the big house, once for embezzlement and he was arrested again last week.

Giampetruzzi sparks big Trinity comeback

Better Late Than Never Award: To the Trinity football team, who, after seeing their offense stifled for most of the game by a stiff Plymouth defense, erupted for two scores in the final 4:01 on TD passes by **Carmen Giampetruzzi** of 80 yards to **Josh Hughes** and the 48-yard game-winner with just 17 seconds left to **Andrew (fort) Lauderdale** to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat to beat the Bobcats 12-7 and end their 40-game home winning streak that dates back to 2004.

Sports 101: With 272, **Tom Brady** is currently 10th on the all-time list for TD passes. Name the 10 ahead of him.

Do the Math: After a sweep on Tuesday of cross-town rival Memorial, the collective soccer record at Manchester Central is 14-1-1. The girls got their sixth win with a 2-0 decision as **Nicole Roberge** scored twice on assists from **Calista (rock and) Roll** and **Paige (ing) Rachel**. The boys remained undefeated with a 5-4 win over the Crusaders, who roared back with three second-half goals from **Mitch Lapierre** after Central had jumped out 5-1 behind two scored from **John Nitanga**.

Dynamic Duo of the Week: Not sure which is South's Batman or Robin, but **Armond McRae** ran for 201 yards on 19 carries and a TD, and **Derek Paradis** ran a kickoff back for an 87-yard score and took an interception back a whopping 104 yards for a second TD, as Nashua South got the better of Memorial 31-6 on Friday.

Out-of-this-World Performance of the

Week: While I'm sure he likes playing at hometown Campbell, there would be a certain symmetry if **John Houston (we have a problem)** were playing instead for the Pinkerton Astros — which is probably what Bishop Brady was wishing as he was averaging 40 yards a carry in Campbell's 42-14 win over Brady. In total he had 120 yards and three scores on five carries, though he wasn't alone in the numerical assault as **Dylan Andrews** had 71 yards on three carries and **Josiah Wade** had 100 in two carries before finishing with 115 and a score.

On This Date – Sept. 29: 1914 – The last-in-mid-July miracle Boston Braves clinch NL pennant. **1954** – **Willie Mays** makes his famous over-the-shoulder catch in the World Series. **1963** – **Stan Musial** plays final game. **1969** – Nashua's **Rico Petrocelli** sets record for homers by a shortstop: 40. **1969** – The Jets' **Steve O'Neal**'s 98-yarder sets an unbreakable record for the longest punt in NFL history. **1975** – **Casey Stengel**, who won 10 series and once lost 120 games as manager of the Yanks and Mets, dies at 85. **1971** – Expo **Ron Hunt** is hit by a single-season-record 50th pitch. **1995** – **OJ Simpson** trial sent to the jury.

Sports 101 Answer: Brady is on pace to throw 59 to give him 315 by year's end to take him past John Elway (300), Warren Moon (291), Johnny Unitas (290), Vinny Testaverde (275) and Joe Montana (273) into fifth place all-time behind only all-time leader Brett Favre (508), Dan Marino (420), Peyton Manning (399), Fran Tarkenton (342).

The Numbers

1 – goal scored when the top-ranked Bedford and Hanover girls and boys soccer teams met each other Friday. The boys ended in a 0-0 tie and Hanover won the girls edition 1-0 in OT on a goal from **Tessa (king of the) Hill** to leave Bedford and Hanover boys 8-0-1 and 6-0-1 respectively and girls 7-2 and 7-0-1 respectively.

4 – goals scored by **Kyle Bisceglia** and **Syver Klefos** to lead 5-1 Goffstown to a 7-2 win over Windham and 8-0 Bed-

ford to a 9-2 win over Pelham respectively.

10 – saves by **Jessica Mealey** in leading Central to a 3-0 shut-out win over Bishop Guertin in NHIAA soccer action on Friday.

25 – yards per carry AVERAGED by **C. J. (Oh) Boykin** in running for 200 yards on 18 carries in leading BG to a 37-6 win over Merrimack as **Tommy Vailas** chipped in with 112 passing yards and two TD passes.

35 – margin of victory between Pinkerton and Salem, solidifying the Astros' spot atop

the polls as the top high school football team in the state with a 49-14 win over the explosive Blue Devils on Saturday.

104 – yards of total offense and three touchdowns as **Jared Chandler** binged Nashua North as sixth-ranked Central came away with a 34-6 win at Gill Stadium on Friday night.

165 – combined rushing yards by **Jordan Garon** (90) and **Michael Gardner** (75) to go along with three TDs in leading Bedford to a 42-14 thumping of Pembroke.

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Hot wines, cold climate

A look at New Hampshire's chilly but growing wine industry

By Angel Roy // aroy@hippopress.com

"I'm in love with this wine," Amy LaBelle said, taking a sip from a thimble-sized glass of her latest release, Americus, a blend of Cabernet Franc and Noiret grapes grown in the Finger Lakes region of New York. The big bold Bordeaux-style red itself was produced in a small barn behind LaBelle's Amherst home (yes, Amherst, New Hampshire), filling a gap in her line of Granite State-made award-winning wines.

"I think it's important for people to know there is world-class wine right here in New Hampshire," LaBelle said. "Wineries have really blazed the path here; they make good wine and have put themselves on the map."

While the grapes may not always be grown here, the art and science of wine-making are alive in the Granite State and the interest continues to increase statewide. Jon Carnevale, sommelier and general manager of the Bedford Village Inn in Bedford, noted that while some New Hampshire wineries are still finding their identities, many have started to come into their own.

"Keep with 'em and keep looking; [they are] certainly going to improve ... the wine trade in New Hampshire is relatively very young compared to other places in the world," he said. "Rome was not built in a day."

Nor was the Roman tradition of wine-making. But even though New Hampshire is considerably colder than Napa, the Granite State can claim to have an increasing bit of its own wine country.



A LaBelle Winery employee seals the foil on a batch of Americus. Angel Roy photo.

An industry uncorked

Peter Oldak, president of the New Hampshire Wine Association and owner of Jewell Towne Vineyards in South Hampton, the state’s first winery, attributed the increase in New Hampshire wineries (there are now more than 23 licensed wine manufacturers in the state) to the acceptance of local wines by supermarkets and restaurants.

“They have started to carry local wines because the quality of New Hampshire wines is quite good,” he said. “I do believe the quality has improved and judging by the number of awards various [New Hampshire] wineries have received at international competitions, they have been judged by impartial groups as being incredible.”

The association, Oldak said, adds five members a year on average. He noted that only half of the wineries in the state grow their own grapes. Oldak has always grown his own grapes at Jewell Towne.

The state wine industry has been working to inform the public about local vino offerings.

“What we’re looking forward to is people selecting New Hampshire wines rather than wines from California, Australia, New Zealand and France, where the wines have a big footprint getting here,” Oldak said. “Local wines have a small [environmental] footprint in terms of getting to market.”

“Since a lot of people do drink wine, we

want them to start drinking local,” he said.

Farmers markets have become good venues for local winemakers. They sell directly to the consumer and draw attention to the fact that wine is really an agricultural product, Oldak said.

“It’s grown and it can be grown locally just like carrots, beats, lettuce and corn ... it’s important to think of wine as being agricultural,” he said.

A vino veteran

One a recent morning, a team of wine bottlers was working hard in the barn behind Amy LaBelle’s Amherst home. The assembly line-like group washed, rinsed and dried the bottles before leaving them to sit under an auto-bottler that fills seven bottles at a time. The full bottles were quickly passed along to be corked, foiled, labeled and boxed.

“The crew has it down to a science,” LaBelle said. “They can do 200 cases a day by hand.”

LaBelle’s first commercial fermentation happened in the fall of 2005, so she is now getting ready to enter her seventh season. Her husband, Cesar, manages the winery full-time while LaBelle works as a lawyer at Fidelity Investments. She studied winemaking through University of California Davis, a school known for its vintner education.

“Wine-making is half science and half art,”

Wine country

Try these sources for New Hampshire wine and maybe a tour or tasting:

- **Appolo Vineyards**, 49 Lawrence Road, Derry, appolovineyards.com
- **Candia Vineyards**, 702 High St., Candia, 867-9751, candiavineyards.com (call for tastings and tours)
- **Coffin Cellars**, 1224 Battle St., Webster, 731-4563 (open Sundays 1-5 p.m. and by appointment)
- **Crooked Tree Cider**, 35 Stickney Road, Whitefield, 837-9174, crookedtreecider.com
- **Farnum Hill Ciders**, 98 Poverty Lane, Lebanon, 448-1511, povertylaneorchards.com (call for tastings and tours)
- **Flag Hill Winery & Distillery**, 297 North River Road, Lee, 659-2949, flaghill.com (open Wed.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.)
- **Fulchino Vineyard**, 187 Pine Hill Road, Hollis, 886-0479, fulchinovineyard.com (open daily 11 a.m.-5 p.m. through Oct. 31)
- **Gilmanton Winery & Vineyard**, 528 Meadow Pond Road, Gilmanton, 267-8251 (by appointment only)
- **Haunting Whisper Vineyards**, 77 Oak Ridge Road, Danbury, 768-5506, haunting-whisper.net (open Wed.-Sun. noon-5 p.m. through Dec. 31)
- **Hermit Woods Winery**, 56 Taylor Road, Sanbornton, 253-7968, hermitwoods.com (open daily 11 a.m.-5 p.m.)
- **IncrediBREW/ Grape Time Winery**, 112 DW Highway, Nashua, 891-2477, grape-timewinery.com (call for class schedule, tastings)
- **Jewell Towne Vineyards**, 65 Jewell St., South Hampton, 394-0600, jewelltownevineyards.com (open Wed.-Fri. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sat. & Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.)
- **LaBelle Winery**, 100 Chestnut Hill Road, Amherst, 828-2923, labellewinerynh.com (check website for open house dates)
- **Moonlight Meadery**, 23 Londonderry Road #17, Londonderry, 216-2162, moonlightmeadery.com (open Wed.-Sun. 11 a.m.-7 p.m.)
- **Olde Nuttfield Vineyards**, 146 Old Sandown Road, Chester, 300-3870, olde-nuttfieldvineyards.com (call for tastings and tours)
- **Sap House Meadery**, Center Ossipee, 539-1672, saphousemeadery.com (open Sat. & Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and by appointment)
- **Stone Gate Vineyard**, 27 David Lewis Road, Gilford, 524-4348, stonegatevineyard.com (open Sat. & Sun. 1-5 p.m. through early November)
- **Sweet Baby Vineyard**, 204 South Road, Kensington, 347-1738, sweetbabyvineyard.com (open Sat. & Sun. noon-5 p.m. and by appointment)
- **Silver Mountain Ciders**, Lempster, 477-2026, silvermountainciders.com (open Thurs.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and by appointment)
- **Walpole Mountain View Winery**, 114 Barnett Hill Road, Walpole, 756-3948, bhvineyard.com (open Sat. noon-6 p.m. through Dec. 24)
- **Windroc Vineyard**, 286 Piscassic Road, Newfields, windrocvineyard.com
- **The Vineyard at Seven Birches**, 1775 Benton Road, North Haverhill, 785-7678, sevenbirches.com
- **Vintners Cellar Custom Winery**, 133 Loudon Road, Concord, 224-9463, vcwinenh.com (open Thurs.-Sat. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. and Sun. 11 a.m.-6 p.m.)
- **Zorvino Vineyards**, 226 Main St., Sandown, 887-8463, zorvino.com (open daily noon-5 p.m.)

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LaBelle said. “The art side came natural to me.”

LaBelle has watched her winery grow from producing three apple wines at Alyson’s Orchard in Walpole, where she still gets all of the apples for her apple wines, to the point where she is gearing up to build a new 20,000-square-foot facility in October, with her sights set on a June opening. For now, all production is done in her 1,200-square-foot barn.

“We really need the expansion, obviously,” LaBelle said gesturing to the current winery, the production taking over every ounce of space. “It’s a good problem to have.”

The new facility will allow LaBelle to produce 60,000-gallon batches, up significantly from the 14,000 she is able to produce now. “Our goal is to take the brand national,” she said. The new facility will allow for 1,700 bottles to be filled hourly.

“I look forward to the time where we have the unfettered ability to produce as much and as many kinds of wine as we want,” LaBelle said, adding that she will wait to see how the new space develops before she plans for planting on the property. She hopes to develop two acres of vineyards in the first phase and another two in the second. She also plans to leave space for planting the tomatoes, onions and jalapeños used in some of her offerings.

LaBelle said she wants to make wines that represent New England, so rather than attempt to produce a Cabernet or a Chardonnay, she may opt to grow Seyval Blanc, a frost-hardy white grape.

“I’m pretty excited. I can’t wait to plant,” LaBelle said.

“We would not get the same varietals if we used the seed,” Appolo said. Appolo uses an Italian crusher/de-stemmer and German bladder press to squeeze the juice from the grapes. The juice is fermented in stainless steel vats. The length of the aging process, she said, is contingent on the varietal. While touring South American wineries, Appolo said, she was told to age chardonnay for a year, but she has learned it can be kept for less, if protected properly.

“If no oxygen gets to it, there is no need to rush unless you need the equipment for next year’s harvest,” she said. “The reds need to age a little bit longer.”

Appolo uses an Englomatic filter filler that allows her to fill only one wine bottle one at a time. She once attempted to bottle 15 gallons, or 10 cases, by herself and spent an estimated seven hours washing sanitizing, bottles, corking, capsulating and labeling. “It probably wasn’t that long but it seemed like it,” she said.

While Appolo has oaked some of her red wines in the past, she has opted to discontinue the process in favor of enjoying the fruit flavors brought out in some wines. As she does not use oak barrels, Appolo would fill metal cylinders with oak chips and hang them into the vats. “If I missed a day and over-oaked the wine it would ruin the flavor,” she said. “I called it the ‘oak monster,’ and I don’t like oak monsters.”

“My theory on that is ‘why bother?’ If there is a possibility of ruining it in one day, why bother?” Appolo said.

Appolo said red wine-making has been a learning process and that she is still leaning on the Winery Association for production advice and information.

When she receives her state license, Appolo plans to set up an outdoor tasting area using the picnic tables in the middle of the vineyard: “That is the vision of what I want to do here,” she said.

Hobby gone mad

Jerry Hillard, owner of WindRoc Winery in Newfields, calls wine a hobby that went awry. A construction worker, Hillard had always had an interest in wine but never thought he would pursue it as a career. One visit to nearby Jewell Towne Vineyards resulted in a two-year voluntary internship.

“He just kept showing up,” said Rich Collins, who worked for Jewell Towne at the time and is now assisting Hillard with his venture. “He told us he wanted to get involved in the local wine scene — we’ve been told that by a hundred people, but Jerry actually did it.”

“He was the employee Pete [Oldak] forgot to pay,” Collins joked.

When Collins left Jewell Towne, he encouraged Hillard to take his know-how and go for it.

“I didn’t want to do construction all my life, so I thought this could be the next chapter,” Hillard said. He received his state manufacturing license on Aug. 31.

Hillard spent much of last year restoring his 1794 farmhouse, and in the spring he planted 16 cold-hardy varietals — 420 grapevines — in his half-acre vineyard: Cayuga, Marechal Foch, Petit Ami, Marquette, Valvin Muscat, Traminette and Lando Noir, to name just a few. He receives his vine cuttings from local vineyards as well as from Pennsylvania and the Finger Lakes region of New York.

“Some people say to take four varietals and go with that, but I wanted to learn what

New vines on the block

Dawn Appolo bought more than three acres of property in Derry, formerly a cattle farm, 10 years ago. Other than a few apple trees on the land, the parcel was run down and overgrown until she and her family cleared it out upon moving in. Their first thoughts were to revitalize the property as a fruit orchard but having just gotten into wine the Appolos decided instead to plant nearly 300 vines to see how things would play out.

“We said let’s try to make wine and see how it goes,” Appolo said noting that her interest in wine grew after she lived in Europe for some time.

The Derry vineyard has 1,600 vines in the ground now including Cayuga (a fruity light-bodied white), Frontanac (a versatile red grape), Marechal Foch (a medium-bodied red), Orion (a smooth German white) and Prairie Star (a lightly floral white).

“I can do a 360 of the vineyard and know where everything is,” Appolo said.

Appolo and her husband opted to join the New Hampshire Winery Association a few years ago as associate members. They spent time volunteering at Flag Hill Winery in Lee and toured vineyards in the Granite State, Pennsylvania and New York.

“We decided it would be fun because we didn’t have hundreds of acres involved,” Appolo said. The business was incorporated as Appolo Vineyards last fall and Appolo is waiting to receive her license from the state. She hopes to be able to sell wines produced from this season’s harvest.

The Appolos purchased the vines they planted from vineyards in New York and Oregon, as seeds are really only pollinated by other grapes.

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Wine bottles are automatically filled at LaBelle Winery in Amherst. Angel Roy photo.

works and what doesn't for me," Hillard said. Growing his own grapes had not been part of Hillard's plan when he first thought of opening a winery of his own, but he learned to enjoy the art of cultivation and harvesting during his internship.

"It's fun to be out in a mature vineyard with a full canopy of grapes hanging," he said. "It's almost a romantic part about the whole thing."

He intends to try his hand at fruit wines and has laid out plans to produce strawberry, blueberry, raspberry, apple and pear varieties.

Once Hillard better learns his terroir (a French term used to describe the characteristics of the land a grape is grown on), he will likely narrow down the number of varietals he produces.

Two of his 16 varietals, NY 81 (red) and NY 95 (white) remain unnamed as they are still in development at Cornell. Hillard was able to pay royalties to obtain the hybrid grapes.

"I thought it would be cool because it they work out I would be one of the first in the area to have whatever they end up being named," he said. "Until then, I will blend with them."

Hillard is most looking forward to the challenge of growing his full-bodied baby, Cabernet Franc, which is roped off and tied up close to a stone wall at the start of Hillard's vineyard.

Cabernet Franc is borderline cold-hardy, Hillard said.

"In New Hampshire it may not survive the cold weather," he said. The fear is that the buds of the grapes will break early — Cabernet Franc takes longer to ripen than most of his varietals — should the vineyard see a late spring frost. Hillard said last year he saw a frost as late as May 11.

"Other vineyard owners might laugh when they hear I'm growing Cabernet Franc," Hillard said.

"Everyone has their own opinion on what grows," Collins said.

"What I have to work with, for someone five miles away it might not," Hillard said.

All of his wines will be aged in steel tanks and Hillard said he will add oak adjuncts as he sees fit.

"Eventually I would like to try using oak barrels once I get the ball rolling," he said.

A 150-year-old barn on the property, renovated by Hillard, will serve as production

space and tasting room. He plans to build a deck for outdoor tastings.

"I want it to be a fun place that people can come that is not snooty ... and hopefully they will like the wine," Hillard said.

Hillard will likely open his winery for the holidays to get his feet wet and open officially to the public in the spring. He is still awaiting approval for his labels.

Let's make some wine

For now, LaBelle has the grapes she uses in her wines (still on the vines, stems and all) shipped from a 600-acre vineyard in the Finger Lakes Region of New York in the fall.

"We get our pick of the litter and it's another family-owned business — we like that," LaBelle said. During harvest season, the vineyard owner calls LaBelle every other day to discuss the sugar and acid levels of the grape crops growing in her selected lot and ask her when she would like it picked. Each day grapes are left on the vine, the sugar increases, and when sugar goes up, acidity goes down. "When there is too much sugar and not enough acid it results in a flat wine," LaBelle said. "You want to watch both on a sliding scale."

The vineyard owner then picks a few grapes from around the entire half acre, crushing and sampling them to see if they are ready. When LaBelle gives the go-ahead, three to four pallets of harvested grape clusters on their stems are shipped to Amherst the very same day. The grapes are then put through the crusher/de-stemmer, allowing the juice to fall into the stainless steel tank, where it is inoculated with yeast.

"Each crush is one batch of wine, so you have to know what you are going to make," LaBelle said. All tanks must be empty to make way for the new arrivals.

During the first fermentation the yeast eats the sugar, which fuels yeast reproduction. The yeast breaks down the natural sugar found in the grapes into carbon dioxide and alcohol. The carbon dioxide blows off and the alcohol stays, LaBelle said. When the sugar is gone, the yeast dies and is cleared from the batch. Bacteria, similar to that found in yogurt, is added during the second fermentation, also known as the malolactic fermentation (a process not done with all wines).

Depending on the type of wine, the first fermentation process can take up to three weeks, LaBelle said, noting that during that

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time she still must check on the yeast levels of each batch. If the levels are off, she will add vitamins or oxygen. Temperature control is a very important part of the process and the tank should be kept between 60 and 65 degrees to keep the yeast alive. If the temperature rises above the desired levels, LaBelle said, she can cool a batch down by splitting it or by running cold water through the jacket of the vat. Her new space will have glycol chilling units, which will allow her to set temperatures for each tank.

In addition to keeping up with temperature control, batches need to be punched down two to three times daily to be able to pull out their flavors and colors, LaBelle said.

"I think you have to kind of get to know your wine," she said. "It's almost like a relationship for me."

But aren't grapes a fruit?

LaBelle ferments her fruit wines in the same style and manner as her traditional grape wines, while some winemakers opt to use a shorter process.

"That is why our fruit wines drink like grape wines," she said. LaBelle said her dry blueberry wine, which was named "Best in Show" out of entries from 35 countries in a competition, drinks like a merlot.

When making an apple wine LaBelle asks the orchard to send only the fresh-pressed juice as she does not own an apple press, but she works with other fruits, such as blueberries and raspberries, as she would for making any other red wine, the only difference usually being the yeast strain used.

"Blueberries ... require a little extra care in terms of making the yeast happy," she said.

One difference in the process is that since grapes are naturally one of the sweetest fruits based on their pure sugar percentage and yeast needs sugar to transform into alcohol, table sugar will be added to fruit wine to give the yeast more fuel.

Appollo opted to produce grape wines over other types of fruit wines traditionally grown in the Granite State in favor of a consistent product. She came to this decision after making her fruit wine using pears. The first version of her creation was "liquid gold," Appollo said, but she has not been able to duplicate the product. "I tried to make it drier; it didn't have the same color, texture or mouth feel."

"It wasn't the same and I didn't like it," she said. Appollo also attempted to make a peach wine but the flavor was not what she had been trying to achieve. "With grapes, they're pretty reliable, at least in my experience," she said.

How to make apple wine, not hard cider

Apple drinks are common in New Hampshire, and often hard apple cider is the drink apple-lovers think of first. Many of the state's vineyards produce a drink that is a cousin but with more of a wine profile: apple wine.

Hard apple cider is made using a bitter apple profile and cider yeast, LaBelle said. There is no early sugar fed to the yeast, resulting in a purposefully lower alcohol content similar to that of a beer (on average beers boast an alcohol per volume percentage of 6 to 7, whereas wines usually start at around 12 percent). Hard ciders are typically made to be of the sparkling variety by being bottled with residual carbon dioxide or bottled while they are still fermenting.

"In our case we want [our apple wine] to be completely still so we allow for it to sit for six to eight months for it to happen," LaBelle said. Hard apple cider needs a much shorter aging period than wine, also similar to that of beer.

"Not being a patient woman I might have chosen that instead," LaBelle joked.

Oh, honey, try something new

Grapes are to wine as honey is to mead.

Michael Fairbrother, owner of Moonlight Meadery in Londonderry, said he finds it amusing when people ask how mead compares to grape wine, when the question really should be how grape wine compares to mead.

"Mead is the oldest fermented beverage," he said. "It was pre-grape wine."

Fairbrother opened his meadery in May 2010 and has watched his business grow from five- to 500-gallon batches. He sold 20,000 bottles in his first year and is projecting to sell close to 100,000 this year.

Three types of meads have emerged over the years: traditional, melomel and metheglin. Traditional mead is made using only honey, yeast and water but occasionally highly concentrated sugar will be added to achieve a desired level of sweetness.

Jon Carnevale of Bedford Village Inn suggests that his diners pair mead (BVI has Moonlight Meadery's Utopian, a semi-sweet mead, on its menu) with dishes as sweet as or sweeter than the honey-based beverage or drink it solo as a dessert wine.

Melomels are meads made with fruit added. Fairbrother said whereas both blueberries and sugar would be used when making a blueberry wine, in a mead the honey takes on the role of the sugar; the blueberry gives it additional flavor. Among the melomels made at Moonlight are mango, strawberry, black currant and apple pie, made with apple cider in lieu of water, which has emerged as one of Fairbrother's most popular offerings.

"I'm sold out of apple pie mead until November," he said. "I'm making 20,000 bottles this year; I sold out of 6,000 last year."

Spices are added to the metheglin variety after the primary fermentation is complete. Fairbrother adds vanilla, ginger, habañero and chocolate to his metheglins to complement the honey.

While wine hits the palate with a "real spike of flavor," Fairbrother noted that the flavor of mead is fuller and longer-lasting. "There is a more complex, wide variety of flavors and you can taste each of the fruits ... the flavors really represent themselves quite well," he said. A 100-gallon vat of mead is made using roughly 25 gallons of honey and 75 of water or juice.

Meads are aged for up to three months, allowing for Fairbrother to release products four times a year.

"Most wineries, because of the way grapes grow, can only make wine once a year," he said. "We are not bound by the same kind of natural restrictions that produce would have on us."

One small state, two different growing zones

All winemakers must find the right varietals for their climates, and New Hampshire wine producers are no exception. Growing grapes in the Northeast, however, poses a particular challenge as the temperature can dip well below freezing in the winter. The state has been divided into two different



Signs at Hermit Woods Winery in Sanbornton point to local vineyards and California wine country. Angel Roy photo.

growing zones, one south of Concord and one north.

“Just that one little zone will change a lot,” Appolo said.

Seyval Blanc and Marechal Foch, a white and red respectively, have emerged as the signature grapes for the southern tier of the state, whereas La Crescent (a slightly sweet white with hints of apricot) and Marquette (a full-bodied red), both cold-hardy varieties developed at the University of Minnesota, are the most common grapes grown north of Concord, Oldak said. Both La Crescent and Marquette were designed to withstand temperatures of 30 below zero.

“Climate is a determining factor for what grapes can be grown, and each [grape] has a low temperature at which you start to kill buds and therefore lose fruitfulness,” Oldak said, adding that since most European varieties tend to be more cold-sensitive, hybrids are often made by blending them with traditional American varieties.

Plan ahead for winter

When winter hits, not much can be done to protect vineyards, so it is best to keep each vine healthy during the summer months, keeping disease and insects under control and cropping each vine to allow for a healthy balance of buds. Grapevines are only capable of ripening a certain amount of fruit — if more buds grow on a vine than the crop is able to ripen, then the plant invests more energy in ripening the additional fruit than it does in hardening its winter wood, Oldak said. Winter wood is also often referred to as the “vigor of the vine.”

In the spring, winemakers should typically snip off two clusters per shoot to allow for an appropriate crop load on each vine, Oldak said.

“There is not an exact science to it, but there is a balance point,” he said. “After you have been doing it [long enough] you get a sense of what each vine can bear.”

While local farmers can turn to crops in greenhouses for the winter months, winemakers are not afforded the same luxury because of the excessive growth that comes with grape vines.

“It becomes really unreasonable if you try to do it in a greenhouse,” Oldak said, adding that the high humidity often found in

greenhouses could lead to fungal issues in the grapes.

Watching the industry from Concord

Over the years, the wine industry in New Hampshire has expanded from traditional grape wines into fruit and honey wines.

“People are doing some really interesting things to make their wines, and in the process many of them are using locally grown things, which is great,” said Gail McWilliam Jellie, director of agricultural development at the state department of agriculture, markets & food.

Wineries are allowed to sell their products at farmers markets thanks to recent legislation, but the local town must also approve of the sale. McWilliam Jellie noted that farmers markets have been helpful in growing the industry as, for the most part, New Hampshire wineries are not permitted to directly sell their products anywhere other than where the wine is produced.

The state department of agriculture, markets and food works directly with the New Hampshire Wine Association and often partners with the organization on promotional projects and doles out grants to the group. When interested winemakers come to the department with questions about how to get started, they are directed to the association. The University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension has also served as a great resource for those interested in wine production, McWilliam Jellie said.

In 2007, the state department of agriculture partnered with the New Hampshire Wine Association to create a Wine and Cheese Trail brochure that features 13 wineries and nine farms that specialize in making cheese. In its third printing, the map is the one of the most popular downloads on the state’s department of tourism website.

“You can make a weeklong vacation of traveling to all of those locations ... wine tasting is popular across the nation and people are looking for that kind of opportunity,” McWilliam Jellie said.

State Liquor Commissioner Joseph Mollica noted that tourism in the state plays a role

Taste of New Hampshire wines

In addition to tours, tastings and events at the vineyards, there are a few regular opportunities to taste local wines.

• **New Hampshire Open Doors** Along with artists’ galleries and craftsmen’s workshops, wineries often take part in the weekend’s events, which run Nov. 5 and Nov. 6. See www.nhopendoors.com for this year’s participants. So far this year Walpole Mt. View Winery is on the list.

• **Winter Wine Spectacular** On Jan. 26, Easter Seals will host its annual grand wine tasting, which features wines from all over the world, including, in previous years, wines from New Hampshire. Tickets cost \$65 for the grand tasting room and \$125 for the grand tasting room plus a special tasting room of higher-end wines. See nh.easterseals.com. The event comes during a string of wine-related tastings, dinners and more known as New Hampshire Wine Week. Keep up with the state’s schedule of Wine Week events at www.liquorandwineoutlets.com.

• **NH Wine Festival** The association held its second annual celebration of local wines in August of this year. Check back at www.nhwineryassociation.com for information on next year’s festival.

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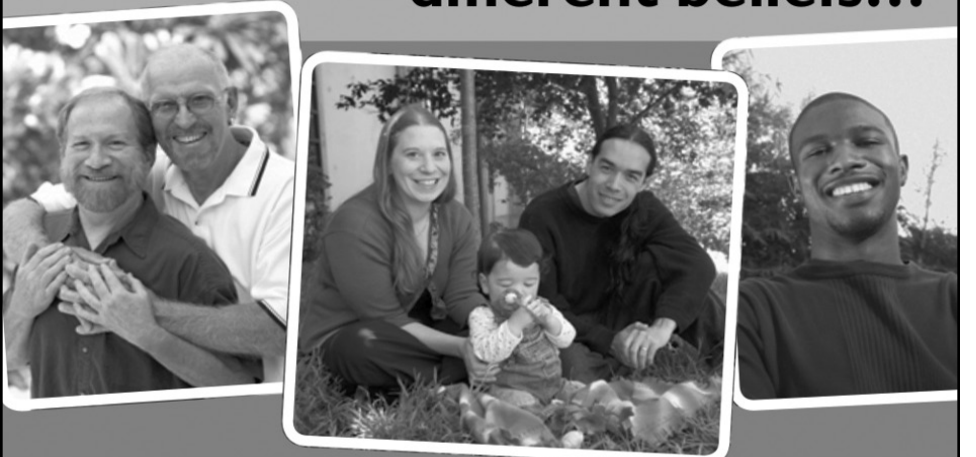
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(top) Amy LaBelle, owner of LaBelle Winery in Amherst, puts last year's harvest through a de-stemmer. (middle) Grapes at LaBelle Winery, grown in the Finger Lakes region of New York, get ready to be crushed. (above) Amy LaBelle and her husband, Cesar, owners of LaBelle Winery in Amherst, turn last year's harvest into wine. Courtesy photos.

in the success of local wineries as visitors often want to take something New Hampshire-made home with them.

The New Hampshire Liquor Commission has thrown its support behind the state's wineries and has recently updated and upgraded its selection of Granite State wines in all the larger liquor & wine outlets it oversees: "We've given them some premier shelf space in our stores as well as their own signage," Mollica said. New Hampshire wines are not required to be tested in the outlets for a period of time before they make it to the shelves as a regular part of the store's inventory. "We've pretty much given them a free pass ... we're very aware of New Hampshire businesses and we want New Hampshire business to succeed and we're all about helping them promote their products," Mollica said.

The steps to selling your own

The rules and regulations of winemaking are invoked when a winemaker intends to distribute his product in the state.

Eddie Edwards, chief of enforcement of the New Hampshire State Liquor Commission, said that unlike with beer, there is no limit to the amount of wine that can be made for personal use but it cannot be sold without obtaining the proper license. Beer brewers are allowed to make only 100 gallons per person if they are not planning to distribute it.

"Wine does not have the same stipulation because it is a different market ... it is directly controlled by the state," Edwards said.

The amount of time it takes to procure a wine manufacturing license is contingent on preparation done by the applicant, Edwards said, adding that the process can be done in as little as a week or as long as three months. To speed up the process, applicants — ages 21 and up only — should have a facility identified, obtain the proper equipment and storage needs and register their business with the state.

There is an annual licensing fee of \$100 for wine manufacturers producing less than 1,000 cases. Manufacturers producing more than 1,000 cases pay an annual fee of \$1,140.

"The ultimate goal is to be fair to the very small producers as well as the large producers," Edwards said.

Is the wine really New Hampshire-made?

The commission, Mollica said, is working with the New Hampshire Winery Association to define what makes a New Hampshire wine.

"We're trying to find common ground on what they feel a New Hampshire wine is and how we feel it should be represented to our consumers," Mollica said.

Edwards said there have been discussions about whether a minimum percentage of the grapes or fruit used in local wines should be required to be local for the product to qualify as being made in New Hampshire. "That would make it very difficult for someone to maintain a winery in the state," Edwards said. "We look at some people that have their grapes shipped in or have their juices shipped in but the wine is fermented and blended here in this state."

That is why the license is called a wine manufacturing license rather than a winery license, he said.

"The focus is to try to grow the industry and make New Hampshire brands more marketable and available for people," Edwards said.

Pour yourself another glass

As the quality of wine produced in the state continues to improve, and the palates of wine drinkers expand, Mollica said he is certain that the industry will continue to grow.

"We're happy to see there is a certain level of professionalism winemakers are putting into their wines," he said. "There is a certain level of dedication and it's certainly showing up in the bottle and that's what consumers buy — they buy what's in the bottle."

McWilliam Jellie also said the state's wine industry is still in growth mode. "I think you will see more [wineries] come on board and more people doing different things," she said.

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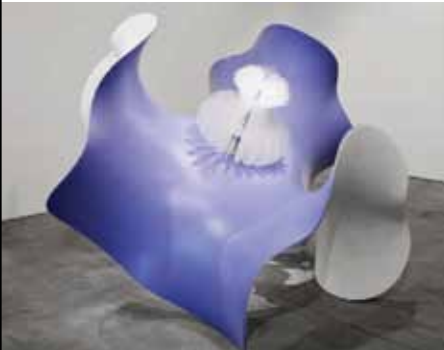
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THIS WEEK

EVENTS TO CHECK OUT SEPT. 29 - OCT. 5, 2011, AND BEYOND



Saturday, Oct. 1

The Nashua Symphony presents “Czech, Please!” at tonight 8 p.m. featuring cellist Sergey Antonov and a selection of Bohemian favorites at the Keefe Memorial Auditorium, 117 Elm St. in Nashua. Tickets cost \$12 to \$48. Visit www.nashuasymphony.org or call 595-9156.



Friday, Sept. 30

The Manhattan Film Fest international short film festival (www.msfilmfest.com) lets you be the judge. Short films, submitted from all over the world and whittled down to a group of finalists, will be screened all over the world and viewers will vote for the festival winner. See it locally at NHTI in Concord on Friday, Sept. 30, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 1, at 2 & 7 p.m.



Sunday, Oct. 2

Four new sculptures are being unveiled today at 3 p.m. at Andres Institute of Art in Brookline, www.andresinstitute.org. The sculptures were created during the 13th annual International Sculpture Symposium in September and are located along wooded trails in the 140-acre sculpture park. The public is invited to gather in the parking lot and hike with guides to the new sculpture sites. Courtesy photo by Michael Dawson.



Tuesday, Oct. 4

The New Hampshire Astronomical Society is hosting a Fall Skywatch at 7:30 p.m. at Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst, 673-2288, weather permitting. NHAS members will be on hand with telescopes. The skywatch will be preceded by an indoor “Introduction to Astronomy” talk at 7 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. Rain date is Thursday, Oct. 6.



Tuesday, Oct. 4

The Manchester Arts Commission, in conjunction with the New Hampshire Institute of Art and the NHIA Alumni Association, is holding an artists reception from 6 to 8:30 p.m. for “NHIA Alumni—New Works,” which is the current Art on the Wall @ City Hall exhibit. Light refreshments will be served and admission to the reception is free and open to the public. See www.nhia.edu.

Free: Book talks

Local author **John Clayton** will talk about, and sign copies of, his latest book, *New Hampshire: War and Peace*, on Tuesday, Oct. 4, at 6:30 p.m. at Hooksett Public Library. Proceeds from the sales of the book will benefit Manchester Central High School’s band.

Bestselling author **Chris Bohjalian** will talk about and sign his new novel, *The Night Strangers*, on Wednesday, Oct. 5, at 12:30 p.m. at Nashua Barnes & Noble, 235 DW Highway, Nashua, 888-0533.

Dr. James Zogby, founder and president of the Arab American Institute, will talk about the topics in his book *Arab Voices: What They Are Saying to Us and Why It Matters* on Tuesday, Oct. 4, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at UNHM, 400 Commercial St., Manchester, www.unhm.unh.edu. Visit the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire at www.wacnh.org, for details. The event is open to the public.

Cheap: Halloween costumes

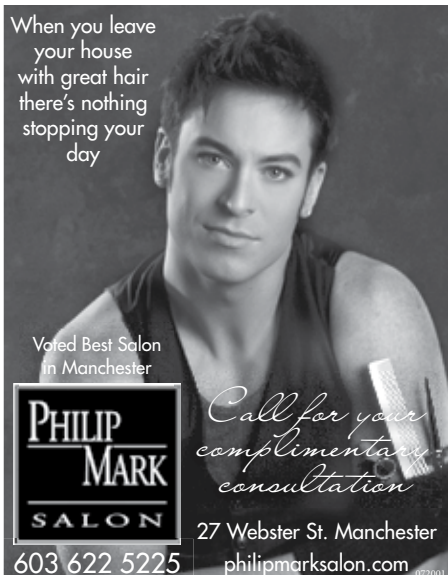
Trade in old Halloween costumes for new Halloween costumes. Bring your old Batman and wicked witch costumes to Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, Sept. 26 through Sept. 29 and get vouchers for the Halloween Costume Swap that will be held at the library on Friday, Sept. 30, from 1 to 4:30 p.m. & Saturday, Oct. 1, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call 886-6030.

The Chester Academy PTA also will hold a costume swap on the stage at Chester’s Town Hall during the flea market and Friends of Chester Public Library book sale on Saturday, Oct. 1, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Splurge: Food and music

Tickets cost \$100 each for the annual Marguerite’s Place fundraiser, on Friday, Sept. 30, at 6 p.m. at the Nashua Country Club, 25 Fairway St., Nashua. Visit www.margueritesplace.org or call 598-1582. There will be a martini potato bar, a raw bar, pasta stations and a beef tenderloin carving station, and the Nashua Actorsingers will perform a preview from their November production of *The Sound of Music*. Pianist Jenny T. will be playing during the cocktail hour. Guests can play games to win prizes and join in an auction for donated items, including a Kindle, sports tickets, hair services, jewelry, and a Clay Buchholz autographed ball.

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By Adam Coughlin
acoughlin@hippopress.com

After more than 30 years, Mary McGowan will retire from her position as head of McGowan Fine Art. She leaves behind a gallery in very capable hands and a legacy of art appreciation in the state.

In the late 1970s, McGowan was a silversmith who made jewelry. Many of her friends were artists, and she soon discovered they were selling more of their work out of state than in state.

"I thought there should be some way to make it work," McGowan said.

One night McGowan told her husband, an architect, that he should fill his new buildings with the crafts of local artists, according to Sarah Chaffee, who will replace McGowan as the head of the gallery. McGowan's husband told her she should do it, according to Chaffee. And so she did.

McGowan said in the beginning, in the '80s, she did corporate consulting and sold works to businesses and banks. Along the way she realized people wanted to buy art for themselves as well. She was doing her framing in Manchester but decided to create a one-stop shop.

"It evolved into an art gallery," McGowan said.

It happened slowly, according to Chaffee, the

only way it could have: with McGowan dragging people along with her.

"She really pushed people to value art," Chaffee said. "She really got people to understand the importance of art."

In the process, she created a special bond between the gallery and the artists whose works they sold. During this most recent economic downturn, Chaffee said artists would call her regularly to see how the gallery was doing, just as she would call them to see how they were managing.

Chaffee began working there in 1997, after interviewing for the position three separate times over the years. "Finally, Mary broke down and hired me," Chaffee said. "We quickly found out it was a match made in heaven."

Chaffee said McGowan was the type of boss who let her employees run with an idea. This trust helped create defined roles. Over the years, McGowan has remained the head of corporate consulting, while Chaffee ran the gallery end, which said made her like an office manager. McGowan said she would miss the day-to-day interaction with clients but felt confident in Chaffee and Amanda McGowan Lacasse (no relationship), who has been with the gallery since 2007.

McGowan has anticipated her retirement, which is why she has had Chaffee act as the public face of the company for the last few

years. She hoped this proactive approach would lead to a seamless transition.

As for herself, she has no immediate plans. She said she has been working since she graduated from college and plans to take some time to relax. McGowan said she would travel a bit but wouldn't go far because she loves her community and will continue to be involved.

McGowan said she's always had an interest in the arts and many of her friends are artists; she also liked problem solving — which was a good thing because there were many problems over the years. McGowan weathered them all. The timing of her retirement is no coincidence. She wanted to be around as the gallery came through the recent economic recession and McGowan feels like it will, which is why she is now free to step down.

While McGowan may be gone, she will certainly not be forgotten. When she began her gallery, artists and buyers used to leave New Hampshire for other states. Now it is common for people from other states to come to New Hampshire looking for art. McGowan said the increased use of the Internet has certainly helped New Hampshire in that regard. As more and more artists have realized they can make a living staying here, the quality of work has really gone up, according to Chaffee.

Those are but a few of the many changes McGowan has witnessed. She said in the



Mary McGowan. Courtesy photo.

beginning she used to consult with banks now she spends more time with healthcare facilities, hotels and law firms.

"It has been an evolution," McGowan said.

For her part, Chaffee said not much would change. She said McGowan Fine Art has always tried to be innovative and to look ahead and that will continue under her watch. But the gallery will never forget where it has come from and who brought it to where it is today.

Mary McGowan's retirement party

When: Thursday, Sept. 29, 4-8 p.m.

Where: McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord

More info: Call 225-2515 or visit www.mcgowanfineart.com

24 Art

Includes listings for gallery events, ongoing exhibits and classes. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

26 Theater

Includes listings, shows, auditions, workshops and more. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

28 Classical

Includes symphony and orchestral performances. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

ART LISTINGS

Art events

• **FIFTH ANNUAL WILD NH AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT** will be through Dec. 4 at the Massabesic Audubon Center, 26 Audubon Way, Auburn. There will be an awards reception on Sun., Oct. 16, 2-4 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Visit www.nhaudubon.org.
• **FOURTH ANNUAL WORLD-WIDE PHOTO WALK** will be held Sat., Oct. 1, 9 a.m.-noon through Exeter. Photographers will meet up at the Seacoast Artist Association galler, 225 Water St., Exeter. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/ExeterWalk>.

Gallery openings and events

• **TOMORROW'S MASTERPIECES ANNUAL ART SHOW & SALE** will be held Sept. 29 through Dec. 3 at the Long Memorial Building, 300 Main St., Hopkinton. Hours are Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Tickets cost \$15. Call 746-3825 or visit www.hopkintoistory.org.
• **ALICE AYCOCK** Artist will give lecture on Thurs., Sept. 29, at 6:30 p.m. at the New Hampshire Institute of Art's French Building, 148 Concord St., Manchester. Visit www.nhia.edu.
• **MARY MCGOWAN RETIREMENT PARTY** will be held on Thurs., Sept. 29, 4-8 p.m. at McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord. Call 225-2515 or visit www.mcgowanfineart.com.

• **O CANADA, O NEW ENGLAND** Multi-artist exhibit on display through Oct. 31 at the Artstream Gallery, 56 North Main St., Rochester. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. There will be a reception on Sat., Oct. 1, 5-7 p.m. Visit www.artstreamstudios.com or call 330-0333.
• **LOWELL OPEN STUDIOS** will be held on Sat., Oct. 1, and Sun., Oct. 2, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. in various locations in Lowell, Mass. E-mail westernavearts@gmail.com.
• **REFLECTIONS/DEFLECTIONS** Work of Dan Rocha will be on display through Oct. 2 at 119 Gallery, 119 Chelmsford St., Lowell, Mass. There will be a reception Sat., Oct. 1, at 3 p.m. Visit www.119gallery.org.
• **EXPRESSIVE IMPRESSIONS** Work of Larry Donovan on display through Oct. 29 at East Colony Fine Art, 55 So. Commercial St., Manchester. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. There will be an opening reception on Sun., Oct. 2, 1-4 p.m. Call 621-7400 or visit www.eastcolony.com.
• **C. RYDER COOLEY** Artist will speak on Tues., Oct. 4, at 2:30 p.m. in the Wadleigh Library Conference Room at Chester College of New England, 40 Chester St., Chester. Call 887-7416 or visit www.chestercollege.edu.
• **NHIA ALUMNI-NEW WORKS** Multi-artist exhibit will be held through Oct. 28 at Art on the Wall @ City Hall, 1 City Hall Plaza. There

will be an artist reception on Tues., Oct. 4, 6-8:30 p.m. Visit www.nhia.edu/alumni-exhibition-at-city-hall.
• **THE HARVEST** Multi-artist exhibit Oct. 1 through Oct. 30 at Lucy's Art Emporium, 303 Central Ave., Dover. There will be an opening reception on Thurs., Oct. 6, 5-7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Visit www.lucysartemporium.com.
• **DISTRESSED** Multi-artist exhibit through Oct. 30 at the Loading Dock Gallery at Western Avenue Studios, 122 Western Ave., Lowell, Mass. There will be a reception on Fri., Oct. 7, 6-9 p.m. Visit www.theloadingdockgallery.com or call 978-349-8069.
• **VIEW OF THE WORLD TODAY THROUGH THE ARTISTS'S EYE** will be held Oct. 5 through Oct. 28 at the NH Art Association, 136 State St., Portsmouth. There will be a reception Fri., Oct. 7, 5-8 p.m. Visit www.nhartassociation.org.
• **BACKSTAGE PASS:** Rock & Roll Photography. Exhibit will be on display Oct. 7 through Jan. 15 at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Call 669-6144 or visit www.currier.org.

In the galleries

• **4th ANNUAL WILD NH AMATEUR PHOTO CONTEST** Up to three photos can be submitted. Youth (under 17) and adults (over 17) will be judged separately. Winning photos will be displayed through Dec. 4 at the Massabesic Audubon Center, 26 Audubon Way, Auburn. E-mail

mac@nhaudubon.org.

• **13th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SCULPTURE SYMPOSIUM** will be held through Oct. 2 at the Andres Institute of Art, 98 Route 13, Brookline. Call 673-8441 or visit www.andresinstitute.org.
• **14th ANNUAL OUTDOOR SCULPTURE EXHIBIT** will be held through Oct. 16 at the Mill Brook Gallery & Sculpture Garden, 236 Hopkinton Road, Concord. Call 226-2046 or visit www.themillbrookgallery.com.
• **32nd ANNUAL PARFITT PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION** will be held through Sept. 30 at the NH Art Association, 136 State St., Portsmouth. Visit www.nhartassociation.org.
• **A CHOSEN PATH:** The Ceramic Art of Karen Karnes will be on display through Dec. 3 at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Call 669-6144 or visit www.currier.org.
• **A LEAGUE OF OUR OWN** Multi-artist exhibit through October 15 at The Red Door Pottery Studio and Gallery Shop, 44 Government St., Kittery, ME. Call 207-439-5671 or visit www.reddoorpottery.com.
• **A TRADITION OF CRAFTSMANSHIP** Work of NH Furniture Masters will be on display through Nov. 13 at the Canterbury Shaker Village, 288 Shaker Road, Canterbury. Open daily, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission costs \$17 (\$8 for kids 6 to 17). Call 898-0242 or visit www.nhfurnituremasters.org.
• **A WHALE OF A RIDE** Work of Theresa LaBrecque will be on display through Oct. 14 at The Gallery at 100

Market, 100 Market St., Portsmouth. Call 436-2818.
• **ALONG THE SILK ROAD** Fall Senior Series will run through Oct. 25 at the Mariposa Museum & World Culture Center, 26 Main St., Peterborough. Admission costs \$5. Call 924-4555.
• **ART IN NATURE** Work of multiple artists including Andy Moerlein will be on display through Nov. 15 at Fruitlands Museum, 102 Prospect Hill Road, Harvard. Hours are Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on weekends. Tickets cost \$12 (\$10 for seniors and students). Call 978-456-3924 or visit www.fruitlands.org.
• **ARTFUL EQUINE EXHIBIT** Multi-artist exhibit on display through Oct. 23 at the Mill Brook Gallery & Sculpture Garden, 236 Hopkinton Road, Concord. Call 226-2046 or visit www.themillbrookgallery.com.
• **CARRIAGE HOUSE GRAND OPENING** Exhibition will be held through Oct. 31, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Canterbury Shaker Village, 288 Shaker Road, Canterbury. Tickets cost \$17 (\$8 for kids and free for children under 5). Call 783-9511 or visit www.shakers.org.
• **DAN BROWN** September artist of the month at Canal Art and Framing, 1 Water St., Nashua. Visit www.danbrownphotography.com.
• **DAVID MCPHAIL:** Looking Back... and Beyond will be on display through December at the Children's Museum of New Hampshire,

6 Washington St., Dover. Hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. No admission to view gallery only. Call 742-2002 or visit www.childrens-museum.org.
• **DENISE DUONG:** The Art of Journeying. Exhibit will be held through Oct. 2 at Three Graces, 105 Market St., Portsmouth. Call 436-1988 or e-mail kim@threegracesgallery.com.
• **EMBRACING FOG:** A Mother's Journey Through Autism. Work of Jill Greenwood will be on display through Oct. 22 at the Epsom Public Library, 1606 Dover Road. Hours are Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 736-9920.
• **FRANK M. INGALLS** New permanent photography exhibit at the Florence Speare Museum, 5 Abbott St., Nashua. Call 883-0015.
• **FULL CIRCLE:** Dahlov Ipcar's Circle Paintings, with a Round of Marguerite and William Zorach and Selected Works from the Boston Sculptors Gallery will be on display through September at the Paul Creative Arts Center at the University of New Hampshire, Durham. Gallery hours are: Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. and weekends, 1-5 p.m. Call 862-3712 or visit www.unh.edu/moa.
• **GERRY WILLIAMS RETROSPECTIVE:** A Life in Clay will be held through Oct. 22 at Colby-Sawyer College, 541 Main St., New London. The event is free and open to the public. Visit www.colby-sawyer.edu or call 526-3000.



local color

• **First solo show is Osgood:** Nashua photography Bethany Osgood will have her first solo show during the month of October at the Steez Gallery, 85 W Pearl St., Nashua. Osgood graduated from the New Hampshire Institute of Art last year with a degree in photography. She said many of her family members were painters so she was exposed to art as a young girl. Of her photographs, Osgood said they are a little quirky as she likes to think outside the box. Her background as an illustrator has also given her a different perspective. She is attracted to subjects that are lost or abandoned, as in her recent exposé on old fairgrounds. She said visiting these places brought back vivid memories of her past even though she hadn't been to a fairground in years. "There is so much that we tend to forget about," Osgood said. "I like to remember it." At her exhibit at the Steez Gallery, Osgood will show two series, "Alice in Wonderland" and "Abandoned." There will be an opening reception on Friday, Oct. 7, from 6 to 8 p.m. Call 718-8394.

• **Home sweet home:** Mennino Place is currently accepting applications for its artist housing units, which are affordable rental homes in Concord. The building has 24 one-bedroom apartments and 21 two-bedroom apartments. Artists will be given preference on half of these apartments. There will be an informational session held on Wednesday,

Sept. 28, from 5 to 7 p.m. at CATCH Offices, 76 South State St., Concord. Call Caite Foley at 717-6038 or e-mail cfoley@catch-housing.org.

• **Ikebana on the move:** Ikebana Flower Boutique, which offers classes in the art of Japanese flower arranging, is moving to a new location. The shop, which used to be at 95 West Pearl St., has moved to 175 Main St., Nashua. The move will offer a bigger classroom space to students, according to owner Antoinette Drouart. Classes are offered weekly for all ages and abilities. Japanese flower arrangement uses the Japanese principles of design — line, space and form — to create harmony with seasonal flowers and branches. The grand opening of the new store will be held on Saturday, Oct. 1, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit www.ikebanaflower.com or call 595-8877.

• **Smile:** Moose Myth, a 22-foot-tall moose sculpture created through the collaboration of artists Andy Moerlein of Bow and Donna Dodson of Massachusetts, has been purchased by Concord developer Steve Duprey and moved from Portland, Maine, to Concord, where Duprey hopes to install it outside the entrance of his new building at 49 S. Main St. Duprey will now seek permission from the Concord City Council. —Adam Coughlin

• **HILLS IN ECHO** Work of Charles Curtis Allen will be on display through Oct. 23 at the Alva de Mars Megan Chapel Art Center at Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Dr., Manchester. Call 641-1310.

• **ICONS OF HISTORY:** Objects that Define New Hampshire. Objects will be on display through Dec. 31 at the New Hampshire Historical Society's museum, 6 Eagle Square, Concord. Visit www.nhhistory.org or call 228-6688.

• **ILLUSTRATOR EXHIBIT** Work by several children's book illustrators is on display at the Brush Gallery and Artists Studio, 256 Market St., Lowell, Mass. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Visit www.thebrush.org or call 978-459-7819.

• **INFINITE MIRROR:** Images of American Identity will be on display through Dec. 4 at the Thorne-Sagendorph Art Gallery at Keene State College. Gallery hours are Sunday-Wednesday, noon-5 p.m., Thursday-Friday, noon-7 p.m. and Saturday, noon-8 p.m. Call 358-2720 or visit www.keene.edu/tsag.

• **IN SIGHT: VISIONS AND REFLECTIONS** Multi-artist exhibit through Sept. 30 at the Jaffrey Civic Center, 40 Main St., Jaffrey. Hours are Tuesday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Wednesday-Friday, 1-5 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Call 532-6527.

• **IT'S PASTEL!** Multi-artist exhibit will be held through Oct. 29 at the Discover Portsmouth Center Gallery, 10 Middle St., Portsmouth. Hours are daily, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 436-8420 or visit www.pastelsocietynh.com.

• **JACQUI HAWK & DONNA HOWARD** September artists of the month at 263 Art Gallery and Boutique, 263 Main St., Nashua. Visit www.263artgallery.blogspot.com or call 321-0233.

• **JAMES FAIST** Featured Sep-

tember artist at the Seacoast Artist Association Gallery, 225 Water St., Exeter. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 778-8856 or visit www.seacoastartist.org.

• **JAMES RAPPA** Deerfield artist will have work feature through Oct. 15 at the Maxwell Library at Bridgewater State University, Bridgewater Mass. Hours are Monday-Thursday, 7:45 a.m.-11:45 p.m., Friday, 7:45 p.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, noon-11:45 p.m. Visit www.jamesrappa.com.

• **JASON REIMERS** Work will be displayed through Sept. 30 at the New Hampshire Antique Co-op, 323 Elm St., Route 101A, Milford. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 673-8499.

• **JEANNE AYER** Oil paintings will be on display through Oct. 31 at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. Hours are weekdays, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Sat., 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and Sun., 1-5 p.m. Visit www.ayer-art.com.

• **LIFE AND STILL LIFE** Multi-artist exhibit on display through Oct. 21 at Art 3 Gallery, 44 West Brook St., Manchester. Call 668-6650 or visit www.art3gallery.com.

• **LOVE ME** Work of Mike Lewis will be on display through September at The Studio, 84 Union Ave., Laconia. Gallery hours are Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Call 455-8008.

• **MANCHESTER ARTS** website presented by the city arts commission, manchester-arts.org.

• **MARTHA MUNROE** work will be on display through Oct. 15 at the Lawrence Library Art Gallery, 15 Main St., Pepperell, Mass. Call 978-433-0330 or visit www.lawrencelibrary.org.

• **MARY GRAHAM** September artist of the month at the Wilton Gregg Free Library, 7 Forest Road, Wilton. Call 654-2581 or visit www.wiltonlibrarynh.org.

tember artist at the Seacoast Artist Association Gallery, 225 Water St., Exeter. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 778-8856 or visit www.seacoastartist.org.

• **MARY NORTH PHILLIPS** September artist of the month at Exeter Fine Crafts, 61 Water St., Exeter. Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Call 778-8282.

• **MIXED MEDIA** Multi-artist exhibit will be held through Sept. 30 at Great Bay Community College, 320 Corporate Dr., Pease International Tradeport, Portsmouth. E-mail acohen@ccsnh.edu or call 427-7665.

• **OF WOOD AND WOOL:** By New Hampshire Furniture Masters and Khawachen, Pioneers of Tibetan Rugs. Exhibit will be on display through Oct. 10 at The Fells Main House, Lake Sunapee, 456 Route 103 A, Newbury. Call 763-4789 or visit www.thefells.org.

• **OPEN STUDIO NIGHTS** third Thursdays, 6-9 p.m. at Verdigris Artisans, 88 N. Main St., Suite 205, Concord, www.verdigrisartisans.com.

• **OPPOSITES ATTRACT** Multi-artist exhibit will be on display through the summer at the Patricia Ladd Carega Gallery, 69 Maple St., Center Sandwich. Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. Call 284-7728 or visit www.patricialad-carega.com.

• **PASSION FOR ART: PASS IT ON** Exhibition will be held through Oct. 28 at the Sharon Arts Exhibition Gallery, 30 Grove St., Peterborough. Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 924-2787 or visit www.sharonarts.org.

• **PASTELS** by Nashua artist Pauline Dailey will be on display in the Image Gallery at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, free and open to the public. Call 589-4610.

• **PLAY/ART/TOY** Multi-artist exhibit through Oct. 1 at Artstream, 56 North Main St., Rochester. Visit www.artstreamstudios.com.

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Curtain Calls



• **Performers take to the streets:** If all the world's a stage, that would include the sidewalk in Concord. That is why the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce Creative Concord Committee (say that 10 times fast) is inviting sidewalk performers — buskers, as they're sometimes called — to sign up and showcase their skills. The idea is a partnership with downtown merchants and the Concord City Council and there are four approved areas for street performers: the sidewalk at the opening to Eagle Square, by the clock tower; the brick alcove on North Main Street next to Merrimack County Savings Bank; the plaza between Gibson's, O Restaurant and Red River Theatres, and the northwest corner of Main and Pleasant streets. Performers are allowed to play Monday through Thursday between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. and Friday and Saturday between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. Visit www.concordnhchamber.com or call 224-2508.

cordnhchamber.com or call 224-2508.

• **Now if they could just get Brooke Burke:** Twenty-one dancers have been chosen thus far to compete in "Dancing with the Concord Stars," which is scheduled for late January as part of NHTI's Second Annual Winter Fling. For the show, the stars are paired up as couples and practice with professional dance instructors. Connie Rosemont of Red River Theatres is one of the dancers already chosen. Call Lee Ann Lewis at 271-7735 or e-mail llewis@ccsnh.edu.

• **Enemies in Portsmouth:** Local novelist and playwright Michael Kimball's *Best Enemies* will be performed Oct. 14 through Oct. 23 at the West End Studio Theatre, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. and Thursday, Oct. 20, at 7 p.m. Kimball described his play as "magic realism." It tells the story of Rex and Cody, lone survivors of a sabotaged rodeo cruise. To compensate for the trauma, they invent imaginary worlds but go to battle with each other over a cowboy hat. "It's the third production of the play [the play premiered at the Players' Ring in 2006], and we've got an exceptional director and cast, notably Don Goettler, an actor/dancer from NYC....," Kimball wrote in an e-mail. "I spotted him at an audition back then and immediately cast him in a couple of one-acts ... but this play, finally, will enable people in the community to see how talented he is." Tickets cost \$15 (\$12 for students and seniors). Call 321-8550. —Adam Coughlin

Melissa Anne Miller will be on display through Oct. 7 at McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Call 225-2515 or visit www.mcgowanfineart.com.

• **REFLECTIONS/DEFLECTIONS** Work of Dan Rocha will be on display through Oct. 2 at 119 Gallery, 119 Chelmsford St., Lowell, Mass. Visit www.119gallery.org.

• **RON PLANTE** Work will be on display at the Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications, 749 East Industrial Park Dr., Manchester. Hours are Monday-Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Call 627-0005.

• **SEACOAST LIGHT AND SHADOW** Multi-artist show will be held through Sept. 30 at the Seacoast Artist Association Gallery, 225 Water St., Exeter. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 778-8856 or visit www.seacoastartist.org.

• **SELECTED WORKS FROM THE BOSTON SCULPTORS GALLERY** will be on display through Oct. 19, at the Museum of Art at the University of New Hampshire in Durham. Visit www.unh.edu/moa.

• **SENSATIONS OF CHANGE** Work of members of the Hollis Arts Society will be on display through September at Gallery West Pearl, 100 West Pearl St., Nashua. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., unless a meeting is going on. Call Pat Hurd at 882-1503 or e-mail phurd1503@aol.com.

• **SILENT AUCTION** held every third Thursday of the month through December, 6-9 p.m. at 100 Main St., Nashua. Call 930-0623.

• **STEVENS HIGH SCHOOLS ART EXHIBIT** will be held through out the summer at Opera House Square in Claremont. Admission is free. Call 542-0064.

• **SUMMER 2011 AT 100 MAR-**

KET Multi-artist exhibit through Oct. 14 at The Gallery at 110 Market, 100 Market St., Portsmouth. Call 436-2818.

• **SUMMER ART EXHIBITION** will be held through Oct. 10 at the Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion, 375 Little Harbor Road, Portsmouth. Gallery hours are Wednesday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit www.wentworth-coolidge.org.

• **TRANSFORMATION** Photographic work of David MacEachran and Alicia Bergeron on display at Silver Light Gallery, 28 Main St., Suite 2, Goffstown. Visit www.silverhillsstudio.com or call 497-4674.

• **WILD AND WARY WAYS** work of Rachel B. Hayes will be on display in the Picture Gallery, 39 Saint Gaudens Road, Cornish, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Call 675-2175 or visit www.nps.gov/saga.

THEATER LISTINGS

• **The Acting Loft**
670 North Commercial Street, Manchester in the Jefferson Mill Building. 666-5999, actingloft.org

• **Actorsingers**
219 Lake St., Nashua, 889-9691, actorsingers.org

• **Adams Memorial Opera House**
29 W. Broadway, Derry, 437-0505, derryarts.org

• **Amato Family Center for the Performing Arts at Souhegan Valley Boys & Girls Club**
56 Mont Vernon St., Milford, 672-1002 ext. 2, svbgc.com

• **Andy's Summer Playhouse**
Wilton, 654-2613, andyssummerplayhouse.org

• **Anselmian Abbey Players**
Dana Center, 641-7700

• **Bedford Off Broadway**
Meetinghouse Rd, Bedford, 557-1805, bedfordoffbroadway.com

• **Bedford Town Hall**
70 Bedford Center Rd., Bedford

• **Bedford Youth Performing Company**
155 Route 101, Bedford, www.bypc.org, 472-3894.

• **Belle Voci**
bellevoci.org, 848-7986

• **Capitol Center for the Arts**
44 Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com

• **Concord Chorale**
224-0770, concordchorale.org

• **Concord City Auditorium**
2 Prince St., Concord, 228-2793, www.theaudi.org

• **Concord Community Players**
224-4905, communityplayersofconcord.org

• **The Dana Center**
100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu

• **The Hampstead Theatre**
1355 Suncook Valley Hwy., Ctr. Barnstead, 1-800-619-5302, www.hampsteadstage.org

• **The Majestic Theatre**
281 Cartier St., Manchester, 669-7469, majestictheatre.net

• **Manchester Community Music School**
2291 Elm St., 644-4548, mcmusicschool.org

• **Manchester Community Theatre and Second Stage**
Professional Co. 698 Beech St., Manchester, 627-8787

• **Milford Area Players**
673-2258, milfordareaplayers.org

• **Muchachos Drum & Bugle Corps**
PO Box 5197, Manchester, 674-7650, www.muchachos.org

• **Music and Drama Company (MADCo.)**
Londonderry, madco.org

• **My Act**
myact.org, 429-3950

• **Nashua Theatre Guild**
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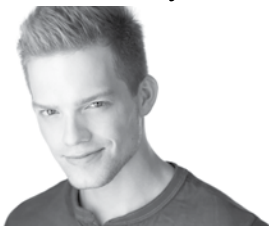
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 • **New Thalian Players**
 newthalianplayers.org, 666-6466
 • **Nashua Community College Performing Arts Club (PAC)**
 505 Amherst St., Nashua, 428-3544
 • **The Palace Theatre**
 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org
 • **Peacock Players**
 14 Court St., Nashua, 886-7000, peacockplayers.org
 • **Pittsfield Players**
 6 Depot St., Pittsfield, 435-8852, pittsfieldplayers.com
 • **Profile Chorus**
 profilechorus.org
 • **School of Theater Arts at The Amato Center for Performing Arts**
 56 Mont Vernon St., Milford, 672-1002 ext. 20
 • **Seacoast Repertory Theatre**
 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, 433-4472
 • **SNHU Drama Club**
 2500 North River Rd., Hooksett
 • **Stagecoach Productions**
 7 Bayberry Way, Mont Vernon, 672-9664 stagecoachproductions.org
 • **Stage One Productions Dinner Theatre at the Chateau Restaurant**
 201 Hanover St., Manchester 669-5511, stageoneprod.com
 • **Yellow Taxi Productions**
 yellowtaxiproductions.org
 • **THE PERSIAN QUARTER** will be performed through Oct. 9 at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell, Mass. Tickets start at \$24. Visit www.merrimackrep.org or call 978-654-4678.
 • **ORSON'S SHADOW** will be performed through Oct. 9 at the Players' Ring, 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays, Oct. 2, and Oct. 9, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 (\$12 for seniors and students). Call 436-8123 or visit www.playersring.org.
 • **I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT, NOW CHANGE** will be performed Fridays, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, Saturdays, Oct. 1, and Oct. 8, at 7:30 p.m., and Sundays, Oct. 2, Oct. 9, and Sat., Oct. 8, at 2 p.m. at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Tickets cost \$15 to \$45. Visit www.palacetheatre.org or call 668-5588.
 • **THE GOOD DOCTOR** will be performed on Fri., Sept. 30, and Sat., Oct. 1, at 8 p.m. and Sun., Oct. 2, at 2 p.m. at the Amato Center, 56 Mont Vernon Road, Milford. Tickets cost \$15. Call 800-838-3006 or call 320-1431.
 • **A WALK DOWN BROADWAY**

On stage



Palace is in love

Joe DiPietro's musical comedy *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* traces relationships through their many stages. The show will be performed at the

Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, on Fridays, Sept. 30 & Oct. 7, and Saturdays, Oct. 1 & Oct. 8, at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays, Oct. 2 & Oct. 9, and Saturday, Oct. 8, at 2 p.m. The musical, which spent 10 years Off-Broadway, explores every aspect of love in different vignettes. Act 1 has 11 scenes and Act 2 has nine more. The musical travels from the crazy dating scene to marriage to losing your loved one and wondering what is left. The show stars Kiley McDonald, Shane Patrick O'Neill, Jeff Blim and Kelsey White. Tickets cost \$15 to \$45. Visit www.palacetheatre.org or call 668-5588. Jeff Blim. Courtesy photo.

will be performed on Sat., Oct. 1, and Sun., Oct. 2, at 2 p.m. at Nashua South High School, 36 Riverside St., Nashua. Tickets cost \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Call 889-6155.

• **ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS** National Theatre broadcast on Sat., Oct. 1, at 1 p.m. at the Peterborough Players, 55 Hadley Road, Peterborough. Tickets cost \$25 (\$20 for students). Call 924-7585 or visit www.peterboroughplayers.org.

• **ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS** National Theatre broadcast live on Mon., Oct. 3, at 7:30 p.m. at the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord. Tickets cost \$26 (\$22 for seniors and \$15 for students). Visit www.ccanh.com or call 225-1111.

• **DR. JEKYLL & MR. HYDE** Original silent film will be screened on Tues., Oct. 4, at 6 p.m. at the Manchester Public Library, 405 Pine St., Manchester. Live music will be performed by Jeff Rapsis. Admission is free, donations accepted. Call 624-6550 or visit www.jeffrapsis.com.

• **BROADWAY BACKWARDS** will be performed Oct. 7 through Oct. 9 at Robert Frost Hall (Walker Auditorium) at Southern New Hampshire University, 2500 River Road, Manchester. Visit www.newthalianplayers.org.

• **FROST HEAVES** will perform on Fri., Oct. 7, and Sat., Oct. 8, at 7:30 p.m. and Sat., Oct. 8, at 2 p.m. at the Peterborough Players Theatre, 55 Hadley Road, Peterborough. Tickets cost \$15. Visit www.frostheaves.com.

• **THE BUTLER DID IT** will be performed Oct. 7 through Oct. 22 at the Garrison Players Arts Center, Route 4 in Rollinsford. Shows are

Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$18 (\$12 for students). Visit www.garrisonplayers.org.

• **FREDERICA VON STADE** Opera singer will perform on Sat., Oct. 8, at 8 p.m. at the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord. Tickets cost \$35-\$75. Call 225-1111.

• **SEACOAST FRINGE FESTIVAL** will be held Sat., Oct. 8, Sun., Oct. 9 and Mon., Oct. 10 in downtown Portsmouth. Visit www.seacoastfringefestival.com or call 749-3405.

• **AND THEN THERE WERE NONE** will be performed Oct. 14 through Oct. 23 at the Amato Center, 56 Mont Vernon St., Route 13, Milford. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 (\$7 for seniors and students). Call 673-2258 or visit www.milfordareaplayers.org.

• **DISNEY'S CINDERELLA KIDS** will be performed Oct. 14 through Oct. 23 at the Peacock Players, 14 Court St., Nashua. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Call 886-7000 or visit www.peacockplayers.org.

• **MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS** will be performed on Fridays, Oct. 14, and Oct. 21, and Saturdays, Oct. 15, and Oct. 22, at 8 p.m. Call 557-1805 or visit www.bedfordoff-broadway.com.

• **AMERICAN SPIRIT** will be performed on Sat., Oct. 15, at 8 p.m. at the Elm Street Middle School, 117 Elm St., Nashua. Call 888-9158 or 318-1792 or visit www.cityartsnashua.org or www.nashuacommunityconcerts.org.

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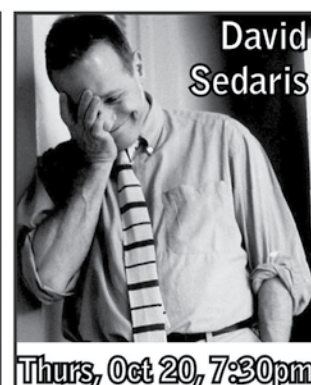
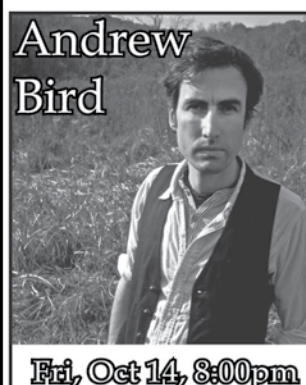
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ART

A von Trapp visits Concord

Werner's daughter will sing at St. Paul's church

By Adam Coughlin
acoughlin@hippopress.com

The halls of St. Paul's will be alive with the sound of music.

On Saturday, Oct. 1, the United Methodist Church will be hosting Elisabeth von Trapp, the granddaughter of the famous Captain von Trapp whose family inspired the Broadway hit *The Sound of Music*.

The musical tells the tale of a young woman named Maria who leaves an Austrian convent in the 1930s to become the governess of the seven children of a Navy captain named Georg Von Trapp. He runs his family as strictly as he runs his ship. But Maria's love warms everyone's hearts and despite the best efforts of the Nazis to destroy everything, the family becomes stronger. Elisabeth von Trapp's father, Werner, was one of those seven children.

Elisabeth von Trapp resides in Vermont and has a cousin who is a United Methodist minister, according to Connie Haskell, chair of the finance committee at St. Paul's United Methodist Church. With the connection to the faith, von Trapp decided to take a tour of the East Coast, performing at local area churches. When Haskell found out about this she pounced on it. It was a good thing she acted so quickly. Response has been enormous. Von Trapp's schedule is ambitious, taking her all the way to Texas. Haskell has had a connection with the von Trapp family's music for more than 50 years.

"Fifty-five or 60 years ago when they were doing the last concert tour as a family, I saw the von Trapps at a community concert in Concord," Haskell said.

She has never forgotten the power of the music and believed the famous von Trapp name would encourage people to come out to the concert. But Elisabeth von Trapp isn't living off her family's history. She is making plenty of her own. She has performed at the White House, St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City and even Fenway Park, home of her beloved Red Sox.

As the daughter of Werner von Trapp, Elisabeth was exposed to music at an early age. Like her father, she plays the guitar. Her music is wide-ranging, including everything from Bach to Broadway, according to her website, elisabethvontrapp.com. She is known to perform both sacred and secular music.

Despite her fame, Haskell said von Trapp seemed quite down to earth. When Haskell called von Trapp's business manager to arrange aspects of the visit, it was von Trapp



Elisabeth von Trapp. Courtesy photo.

who answered. Haskell told her that she had two granddaughters, 8 and 10 years-old, who would love to meet von Trapp after the show. Von Trapp asked if either of them was a performer. Haskell said the eldest granddaughter played Brigitta in a school production of *The Sound of Music*. Von Trapp replied, "Oh, she was the precocious one."

The popularity of *The Sound of Music*, which became an international hit in 1965, with Christopher Plummer portraying von Trapp's grandfather, has remained remarkably strong over all of these years. And while Haskell believes von Trapp's performance may introduce a new generation of fans to this music, she believes many already know it.

"*The Sound of Music* is so many people's favorite," Haskell said. "When I tell people about this concert, they all want to come."

When they arrive they will find no charge for admission, according to Harriet Cutler, who does publicity for the church. Good-will donations will be accepted. Haskell said they didn't want a high ticket price to discourage anyone from enjoying the music.

"Part of our mission is to expose culture to the community," Haskell said. "We want to open the doors to our church."

Elisabeth von Trapp

When: Saturday, Oct. 1, at 7 p.m.

Where: St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 335 Smyth Road

Tickets: Free, however, donations are accepted

More info: Call 647-7322

• **ANNA BOLENA** The Met: Live in HD will be shown on Sat., Oct. 15, at 1 p.m. at the Peterborough Players, 55 Hadley Road, Peterborough. Tickets cost \$25 (\$20 for students). Call 924-7585 or visit www.peterboroughplayers.org.

Summer theater

• **ACTONE'S FESTIVAL 2011** shows will be performed at the West End Studio Theatre, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth. Tickets cost \$18 and \$20. Visit www.actonenh.org or call 300-2986. Shows are: *Boxed In* on Fri., Sept. 30, and Sat., Oct. 1, at 8 p.m. and

Sat., Oct. 1, at 2 p.m.; and *World Tales* on Sun., Oct. 9, at 7:30 p.m.

Auditions/workshops

• **5th ANNUAL MILFORD PUMPKIN FESTIVAL TALENT SHOW** Performers are needed for the talent show, which will be held Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 at the Milford Town Hall Auditorium. Visit www.milfordpumpkinfestival.org.

• **COMMUNITY DRUMMING** will be held on the 2nd and 3rd Thursday of the month, 4:45-5:45 p.m. at the Queen City Ballroom, 21 Dow St., 2nd floor, Manchester.

Class costs \$15. Call 647-0622 or e-mail thevillagedrum@aol.com.

• **YOUTH THEATRE** Theatre Tots workshop for ages 4-7 began Wed., Sept. 28, 4-4:45 p.m. and runs through Nov. 6; Theatre Stars workshop for ages 7-13 began on Wed., Sept. 28, 4:45-6:15 p.m. and runs through Nov. 15 at the Garrison Players Youth Theatre, Route 4 in Rollinsford. Cost \$125 per student. Call 516-4919 or e-mail info@garrisonplayers.org.

• **THE PHANTOM TOLL BOOTH** Auditions will be held on Thurs., Sept. 29, 4:30-6 p.m. at the Garrison

Players Arts Center, Route 4 in Rollinsford. Call Ms. Autumn 834-4263.

• **FALL WORKSHOPS** will be held Mondays, through Oct. 3 at the New Hampshire Theatre Project, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth. Workshops cost \$125. Visit www.nhtheatreproject.wordpress.com/educationalprograms.

• **ACTING WITHOUT THE DRAMA** Adult acting workshop will be held weekly Oct. 9 through Dec. 11 at 8 p.m. at the Garrison Players Arts Center, Route 4 in Rollinsford. Cost is \$180 per student. Call 380-4700 or e-mail dwi-ley224@live.com.

CLASSICAL LISTINGS

• **SEEKING MUSICIANS** The Amherst Town Band is seeking new musicians on all instruments. They rehearse Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m. in the choral room at Souhegan High School, 412 Boston Post Road, Amherst. Most band members are amateur musicians. Visit www.amhersttownband.org.

• **THE MERRIMACK CHORUS** meets Sundays 7-9 p.m. beginning Sept. 18 at the John O'Leary Adult Community Center, 4 Church St., Merrimack. Call Choral Director Jamie Saucier at 828-6739. The Merrimack Concert Band meets Tuesdays beginning Oct. 4, 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Merrimack Middle School band room, 31 Madeline Bennett Lane, Merrimack. Call Band Director Lelia Dutton at 429-8328.

• **CATHEDRAL CHOIR** of St. Joseph Cathedral, 145 Lowell St., Manchester will audition new members. Rehearsals are Thursdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. and the choir performs Sundays, at 10:30 a.m. Solemn Mass. Call Eric Bermiani at 622-6404 ext. 31 or e-mail ebermani@stjosephcathedralnh.org.

• **MANCHESTER COMMUNITY SUMMER BAND** Open to all woodwind, brass, and percussion players, high school students through adult learners. Rehearsals are Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m. at the Manchester Community Music School, 2291 Elm St., Manchester. E-mail edward.doyle@comcast.net or call 644-4548.

• **RHYTHM OF NH SHOW CHORUS** will hold open rehearsals for all women on Thursdays, at 6:45 p.m. at the Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 West Broadway, Derry. All voice parts are welcome, but the group is especially interested in those women who can sing melody (lead). Call 800-696-7351 or visit www.rnhchorus.org.

• **CHAMBER MUSIC** will be performed on Fri., Sept. 30, with a reception at 6 p.m. and concert at 7 p.m. at Sant Bani School, 19 Ashram Road, Sanborn. Tickets cost \$15 (children are free). Call 934-4240.

• **STRAFFORD WIND SYMPHONY** will perform on Fri., Sept. 30, at 7 p.m. at the Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester. Tickets cost \$12 (\$7 for children under 12). Call 335-1992.

• **CZECH, PLEASE!** Nashua Symphony will be performed on Sat., Oct. 1, at 8 p.m. at the Keefe Memorial Auditorium, 117 Elm St., Nashua. Tickets cost \$12-\$48. Call 595-9156 or visit www.nashuasymphony.org.

• **CODY MICHAELS** Pianist will perform on Sat., Oct. 1, at 7 p.m., at Newfields Community Church, 71 Main St., Newfields. Suggested donation of \$10 (\$5 for students). Call 778-8626 or visit www.newfieldscommunitychurch.org.

• **ELISABETH von TRAPP** will perform on Sat., Oct. 1, at 7 p.m. at the St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 335

On stage



You better Czech yourself

The Nashua Symphony Orchestra will perform a concert called "Czech, Please!" on Saturday, Oct. 1, at 8 p.m. the Keefe Memorial Auditorium, 117 Elm St., Nashua. The concert will be conducted by Jonathan McPhee and will feature Sergey Antonov on cello. The youngest cellist ever to win a gold medal at the Tchaikovsky International Competition, Antonov will perform the lyrical Dvořák concerto, as part of a program of Bohemian favorites, including Josef Suk. Ticket prices range from \$12 to \$48. Call 595-9156 or visit www.nashuasymphony.org. Jonathan McPhee. Courtesy photo.

On stage



Mezzo-soprano in Concord

In the world of classical music, Frederica von Stade stands alone. For more than 30 years this mezzo-soprano singer has performed in operas, concerts and recitals. Her recordings have garnered six Grammy nominations and numerous international awards. She was even honored in the White House by Ronald Reagan. She will take her talents to the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, for a concert on Saturday, Oct. 8, at 8 p.m. Accompanying Von Stade on this evening will be the noted pianist Laurana Michelmoro. Tickets cost \$35 to \$75. Call 225-1111 or visit www.ccanh.com. Frederica von Stade. Courtesy photo.

Smyth Road, Manchester. Donations will be accepted. Visit www.elisabeth-vontrapp.com or call 647-7322.

• **RONAN TYNAN** will perform on Sat., Oct. 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover, Mass. Tickets cost \$40 at the door. Call 978-837-5355.

• **TAKE A CHANCE** Merrimack Valley Chorus will perform on Sun., Oct. 2, at 2 p.m. at the Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover, Mass. Tickets cost \$10. Visit www.merrimackvalleychorus.org or call 800-928-6151.

• **AN EVENING WITH CLASSICAL OVERTONES** Concert will be held Sat., Oct. 8, at 8 p.m. at the Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. Tickets cost \$10 to \$35. Call 226-4776 or visit www.gssso.org.

• **UNH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** will perform on Tues., Oct. 18, at 8 p.m. at the Johnson Theatre at the University of New Hampshire in Durham. The concert is free and open to the public. Call 862-2494 or visit www.unh.edu/music.

• **FRED MOYER** Pianist will perform on Thurs., Oct. 13, at 7 p.m. at the Southern New Hampshire University Dining Center Banquet Hall, 2500 North River Road, Manchester. The concert is free and open to the public. Visit www.snhu.edu/music.

• **UNH CONCERT BAND** and UNH Symphonic Band will perform on Thurs., Oct. 13, at 8 p.m. in the Johnson Theatre at UNH-Durham. The concert is free and open to the public. Call 862-2404 or visit www.unh.edu/music.

• **VOICES OF THE 603** A Cappella competition will be held on Fri., Oct. 14. The show will be in two

segments: the first will begin at 10 a.m. at UNH-Manchester, 400 Commercial St., Manchester. The second begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Tickets cost \$10. Visit www.voicesofthe603.com.

• **DREAMSCAPE** NH Philharmonic will perform on Sat., Oct. 15, at 7 p.m. at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Tickets cost \$15 to \$50. Call 668-5588 or visit www.palacetheatre.org.

• **UNH CONCERT CHOIR** will perform on Sun., Oct. 16, at 3 p.m. at the Johnson Theatre at the University of New Hampshire-Durham. The concert is free and open to the public. Call 862-2404 or visit www.unh.edu/music.

• **UNH ALUMNI COMPOSERS CONCERT** will be held on Fri., Oct. 28, at 8 p.m. at the Bratton Recital Hall, at UNH-Durham. The concert is free and open to the public. Call 862-2404 or visit www.unh.edu/music.

• **UNH FACULTY CONCERT SERIES** Trumpeter Robert Stibler and Organist Abbey Hallberg Siegfried will perform on Sun., Oct. 30, at 3 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 101 Chapel St., Portsmouth. The concert is free and open to the public. Call 862-2404 or visit www.unh.edu/music.

• **BAROQUE IS A BLAST!** Concert will be performed on Sat., Nov. 5, at 8 p.m. at the Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. Tickets cost \$10 to \$35. Call 226-4776 or visit www.gssso.org.

• **MARK SHILANSKY** Jazz pianist will perform on Tues., Nov. 8, at 8 p.m. at the Johnson Theatre at UNH-Durham. The concert is free and open to the public. Call 862-2404 or visit www.unh.edu/music.

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than \$20.

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From yoga to pilates, cooking to languages to activities for the kids, Hippo's weekly listing offers a rundown of all area events and classes. Get your program listed by sending information to listings@hippopress.com at least three weeks before the event.

The circus comes to town

BARNUM 200 brings fun and spectacle for all ages

By Briana Palma
bpalma@hippopress.com

A 61-car, mile-long train is chugging into town and bringing with it a host of fascinating characters, from enormous elephants and miniature horses to contortionists and trapeze artists. This unconventional, 130-person family (plus animals) constitutes the cast of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey's BARNUM 200 show, which has delighted crowds across the country during the last 18 months.

The two-year tour has just seven more stops to make, and up next it's heading to Manchester's Verizon Wireless Arena, where the performers will entertain six times from Friday, Sept. 30, through Sunday, Oct. 2. The two-hour show features both traditional and modern acts, all in honor of the 200th birthday of P.T. Barnum, the entertainment industry pioneer who helped found the famous circus in 1871.

Though 140 years have passed since the Brooklyn, N.Y., premiere of Barnum's Great Traveling Museum, Menagerie, Caravan and Hippodrome, current ringmaster Johnathan Lee Iverson believes it's still the Greatest Show on Earth, because "the miraculous is always relevant."

"Everybody loves spectacle," he said. "And we're the only genre of entertainment that gives you that authentically. We don't have stunt people, we don't have 99 takes to get it right. ... Everything is live and in living color, and everything is extraordinary."

Iverson would know. He was part of three consecutive tours with Ringling Bros. before moving on to other work in the entertainment business, including theater, commercials and voiceovers. Still, he couldn't resist returning to the circus for BARNUM 200.

"There was a ringmaster who once told me, 'Once you get the sawdust in your blood, you'll never be the same,'" he said. "Circus ruins you for every other thing. She's just a great lover. You can go mess around if you want, but you're

always going to be addicted to her."

Since Iverson first joined the cast 13 years ago, he has witnessed some changes to the format of the popular show, but he credits the constant evolution for its long-term success.

"We recognize the fact that today's audience isn't patient," Iverson said, adding that the show runs seamlessly, without a break in the action other than the intermission.

"*The Godfather*, which is my favorite movie of all time, would bomb today. It just would. ... [The culture] is more *Lord of the Rings*. You have to move it along and have more spectacles and add things that are in concert with the imagination of the public. That's what we've done."

BARNUM 200 kicks off with "All Aboard," a high-energy number that introduces the audience to the talented, multi-cultural people who inhabit the circus train, which is the largest privately owned train the world. The show continues with acrobats, contortionists, tight-rope walkers, motorcyclists and trapeze artists, as well as tigers, elephants, llamas, goats, horses and snakes.

Still, the fun at each performance really begins one hour before the scheduled start time, when members of the audience can chat with the cast, take photos and get in on some clown gags at the All-Access Pre-show.

"It gives them a chance to meet performers from all over the world," Iverson said. "There are some people who live in a capsule; they've never met a Russian or Brazilian person. And here, you enter a global culture of super talent and you get to see that we're just as human as you are, but we know how to fly."

Ringling Bros. certainly does have some international flair, with cast and crew from 15 different countries, according to a press release.

"I don't care where you go in the world, if you're good at what you do, you're good at what you do," Iverson said. "Talent transcends language."

The entertainment value of the circus also seems to be unbounded by age, as the audience at a Ringling Bros. show is always multi-genera-



(top) The 130-person cast of Ringling Bros. BARNUM 200 is coming to Manchester for six performances. (above) Johnathan Lee Iverson entertains children and adults as the ringmaster of Ringling Bros. BARNUM 200 production. Courtesy photos.

tional, according to Iverson.

"In fact, I would add that the adults are having a better time than the children," he said. "They are being reminded of the gift of wonder. ... We lose a sense of awe for things, which is really tragic in my opinion. And I think the circus reminds us of that."

BARNUM 200

When: Friday, Sept. 30, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 1, at 11 a.m., 3 & 7 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 2, at noon & 4 p.m.

Where: Verizon Wireless Arena, 555 Elm St., Manchester

Tickets: cost \$16-\$91, available at www.ticketmaster.com or by calling 1-800-745-3000

More info: www.ringling.com

CHILDREN & TEENS

• RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP

Concord Public Library, 45 Green St., Concord, 230-3682, Thurs., Sept. 29, from 3:30 to 4:30. This program is presented for kids by the Concord-Merrimack County SPCA.

• **FAIRY HOUSE FUN** Laconia Rotary Hall, Laconia, Fri., Sept. 30, at 3:45 p.m. This library program is open to kids in grades K-5, as they will learn about fairy lore and make their own fair houses. Call 524-4775 ext. 13 to register.

• **HALLOWEEN COSTUME SWAP** Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, Fri., Sept. 30, from 1 to 4:30 p.m. & Sat., Oct. 1, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Think Green for Halloween. Bring old Halloween costumes to the library Sept. 26-29 and get vouchers for the Halloween Costume Swap. Call 886-6030.

• **LOVELY LEAVES** Amoskeag Fishways, 6 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-3474, Fri., Sept. 30, from 7 to 8 p.m. This family program is all about leaves. Participants will discover the trees along the river and why some of them turn colors in the fall. Kids will look at leaves and bark up close, make a leafy craft to take home, and go on a fun leaf hunt around the Fishways. Costs \$5 per family, and advance registra-

tion with payment is required. Call 626-3474 or go to www.amoskeagfishways.org.

• **BEDLAM IN HENNIKER RACE** Main Street, Henniker, Sat., Oct. 1. This fun race will be a part of the Music on Main Street celebration, which includes bands, cupcake decorating, antique cards and kids games. The Bedlam bed race welcomes teams of five participants. Prizes will be awarded to the fastest and most creative teams. For complete rules and entry form, see www.Henniker-Chamber.org. Contact Scott at 428-7585 or Paul at 428-3238.

• **HARVEST DAY** New Hampshire Farm Museum, Rt. 125, Milton, 652-7840, Sat., Oct. 1, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Press apples to make cider, enjoy bluegrass music in the cider mill, see the apple exhibit and take a tractor hay ride. Children will love helping to make stone soup, grinding corn, meeting the farm animals, painting a gourd to take home, pumpkin games and making a cornhusk doll. Enjoy historic farm house tours, tasting old fashioned johnny cakes with homemade butter and demonstrations of spinning, weaving and blacksmithing. Admission costs \$7 for adults (\$4 for children; members free). Go to www.farmmuseum.org.

• **FALL FESTIVAL** Pollard Memorial

In the spotlight



Recycled arts and crafts

The Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion (375 Little Harbor Road, Portsmouth) is home to the "Found Grotto," a tree house

filled with instruments made from reused materials like crutches, flowerpots and vacuum tubes. Children enjoy visiting the colorful space, a creation of artist Katie Doyle, and now they can take inspiration from it, too. Doyle will host the Discover Found Art workshop at the mansion on Sunday, Oct. 2, from 2 to 4 p.m. Kids of all ages are invited to use their imaginations to make instruments, mobiles, critters and other creations with household materials. They can bring their own "found" items like buttons, broken toys, fabric, recycled bottles and containers. Reserve a spot by calling 436-9889 or e-mailing info@wentworthcoolidge.org. For more information on the mansion, see wentworthcoolidge.org.

Library, 401 Merrimack St., Lowell, 978-970-4120, Sat., Oct. 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The schedule of events includes face painting and crafts for children, a bake sale, songs for kids with Elaine Kessler, short stories and an acoustic cafe with Dave Norton. For more information, go to www.pollardml.org or call 978-970-4120.

• **DISCOVER FOUND ART** Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion, 375 Little Harbor Road, Portsmouth, 436-9889, Sun., Oct. 2, from 2 to 4 p.m. Seacoast artist Kate Doyle will host this children's art workshop, during which children will use their imagination to create musical instruments, critters, mobiles and anything else they can think of from items

Kiddie Pool

Family fun this weekend

More fall festivals

• This time of year brings lots of festivals. On Saturday, Oct. 1, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., stop by the New Hampshire Farm Museum (Route 125, Milton, 652-7840, www.farmmuseum.org) for **Harvest Day**, a seasonal celebration with apple cider making, pumpkin games, hay rides, bluegrass music and more. Admission costs \$7 for adults, \$4 for children.

• The Pollard Memorial Library in Lowell is also hosting its **Fall Festival** on Saturday, Oct. 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be face painting, crafts, songs and short stories. See www.pollardml.org.

• Kick off fall with a **Native American celebration** on Sunday, Oct. 2, when the Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum, at 18 Highlawn Road in Warner, holds the Harvest Moon Festival. The day-long event includes games, contests, craft demonstrations, food and more. Admission costs \$8.50

per person (\$26 for families). See www.indianmuseum.org.

• For fun throughout the weekend, head to the **Deerfield Fair** (www.deerfieldfair.com), taking place from Thursday, Sept. 29, through Sunday, Oct. 2. At the 135th edition of the popular fair, you can see plenty of animal demonstrations and contests in addition to music, magic, puppets and more. There will be a Miss Deerfield Fair Contest on Friday.

Cuddle up with a good book

• Every week, the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4600, www.nashualibrary.org) hosts several **storytimes with puppet shows**. Drop in for the Sunday session on Oct. 2, from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

• Also on Sunday, Oct. 2, families can head to the Barnes & Noble at 1741 S. Willow St. in Manchester for **Story Hour**. There will be stories for all ages as well as a fun craft, starting at 2 p.m.

• The Hollis Social Library (2 Monument Sq., 465-7721, Hollis, www.hollislibrary.org) is kicking off its new season of **After School Storytime** on Monday, Oct. 3, at 4 p.m. The monthly program has stories and crafts for children in kindergarten through second grade.

Animal fun

• Every Sunday, you can see **animal feedings** at the Massabesic Audubon Center in Amherst. At 11:30 a.m., watch the ball pythons eat lunch, and one hour later, at 12:30 p.m., look on as the raven is fed. The events are free. See www.nhaudubon.org.

• Stop by Contoocook's Little Nature Museum on Sunday, Oct. 2 and you'll have the pleasure of seeing **alpacas**, which will be visiting the museum from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Then, browse the various exhibits or explore the outdoor Discovery Area. See www.littlenaturemuseum.org.

found around the house. Attendees are encouraged to bring "found" items: buttons, broken toys, shoeboxes, paper, fabric, ribbon, recycled bottles and yogurt containers, and anything else that inspires them to create. Space is limited and spots can be reserved by calling 436-9889 or e-mailing info@wentworthcoolidge.org. All ages are welcome.

• **HARVEST MOON FESTIVAL** Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum, 18 Highlawn Road, Warner, 456-2600, Sun., Oct. 2. Celebrate fall with a day of Native American-themed games, contests, craft demonstrations, foods and more. Visitors can also stroll through the arboretum, walk the trails in the Medicine Woods, play in the teepee and tour the museum. Admission costs \$8.50 per person or \$26 for families (\$5/\$20 for members). Go to www.indianmuseum.org or call 456-2600.

• **LEGO LEGION** Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610, Oct. 4, 11 & 17, at 4 p.m. Children can use the library's legos or bring their own to work on projects with friends. Register at www.tinyurl/nplkid.

• **COLLEGE COSTS & FUNDING OPTIONS WORKSHOP** Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, Wed., Oct. 5, at 7 p.m. The Center for College Planning will present a free workshop that is ideal for parents of high school students who want to plan for college expenses. Call the library at 886-6030 or go to nhheaf.org, the NH Higher Education Assistance Foundation website.

• **TERRIFIC TREES** Amoskeag Fishways, 6 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-3474, Wed., Oct. 5, at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. This is a preschool program in which children will discover the tall

In the spotlight



Ecotourism in New Hampshire

The state's Sustainable Energy Association is hosting its annual Green Buildings Open House on Saturday, Oct. 1, allowing the public to tour more than 40 homes and other properties that use solar and/or sustainable energy technologies, such as solar panels and wood stoves. During the event, guests can tour the properties, chat with owners and find out more about integrating green energy into their homes. The locations are spread out across the state and will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. You can pre-register at www.nhsea.org.

trees along the river and why some of them turn colors in fall. Kids can even go on a leaf hunt and make a "leafy" craft to take home. Costs \$5 per family and advance registration with payment is required. Call 626-3474 or see www.amoskeagfishways.org.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Open houses

• **UNH GRAD SCHOOL INFORMATION SESSIONS** UNH Graduate School Manchester Campus, 400 Commercial St., Manchester, 641-4313, hosts free information sessions the first Tuesday of every month. The next session will be Tues., Oct. 4, at 6 p.m. RSVP by e-mailing unhm.gradcenter@unh.edu or calling 641-4313.

• **UNH GRAD SCHOOL FALL OPEN HOUSE** UNH Graduate School Manchester Campus, 286 Commercial St., 4th Floor, 614-4313, Tues., Oct. 11, at 6 p.m. This

open house is for graduate programs in business administration, public administration, public health, social work, software systems engineering, management of technology, information technology, counseling, teacher education, educational administration & supervision, and teacher leadership. Prospective students can meet with representatives from their graduate program of interest. Open house is free and open to the public. RSVP at unhm.gradcenter@unh.edu or 641-4313.

• **MANCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE OPEN HOUSE** 1066 Front St., Manchester, Thurs., Oct. 13, from 5 to 7 p.m. Meet with an admissions counselor, talk to faculty, register for classes, learn about financial aid, transfer options, and much more. Attend information sessions for: Education at 5 p.m. in MAIN215. Nursing at 5:30 p.m. in the Nursing Lab. Health Information Management at 5:30 p.m. in



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Concord's Community College

Manhattan Short Film Festival

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Saturday, October 1, 2pm and 7pm.

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More info at www.msfilmfest.com. Sponsored by the NHTI Film Society. Contact Steve Ambra, (603) 271-7185 or sambra@ccsnh.edu.

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• **TRANSFER TUESDAYS** UNH Manchester, 286 Commercial St., Manchester, Tuesdays, Oct. 4-25, from 2 to 6 p.m. Transfer Tuesdays are one-on-one sessions designed to give returning students an opportunity to see how their credits might fulfill UNH degree requirements. Transfer admission counselors will be available to review copies of students' transcripts and answer questions about transfer admission, transfer credit, and the benefits of attending UNH's affordable, commuter campus in Manchester. Sessions are first-come, first-served and no appointment is necessary. Call 641-4150 or go to unhm.unh.edu.

MISCELLANEOUS

Food/Bake/yard sales/raffles/auctions

• **GREENLAND CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE** Greenland Parish House, 43 Post Road, Greenland, Sept. 29, from 6 to 8 p.m.; Sept. 30 & Oct. 1, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Items for sale include gently used clothing for women, men and children, as well as household items, books, toys, puzzles and more. Clothing is all priced per bag; other items are priced individually. Sandwiches and slices of pie will also be for sale. This semi-annual event raises money for a variety of programs at the church and in the community. For more information, call 436-8336 or e-mail greenlanducc@myfairpoint.net.

Expos/festivals/fairs

• **CLASSIC CAR FIELD DAY** Presidential Oaks, 200 Pleasant St., Concord, 1-800-678-1333, Sat., Oct. 1, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Registration for this event starts at 8:30 a.m. and the entry fee is \$15 per car, which includes lunch for the driver. There will be various prizes awarded during the ceremony at 2 p.m. Guests can also enjoy a barbecue lunch. For more information, call 225-6644.

• **APPLE HARVEST DAY** Downtown Dover, Sat., Oct. 1, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This street festival kicks off with a 5K road race and pancake breakfast. Then, Central Avenue is lined with more than 300 crafters, artisans and merchants. There will also be performers and musicians on five different stages. Kids can enjoy games, rides, a petting zoo, amusements and more. For more information, go to www.dovernh.org.

• **OKTOBERFEST** Alpine Grove, Hollis, Sat., Oct. 1. Business by Demand is presenting this event to support the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Tickets cost \$20 (\$15 for chil-

In the spotlight



Going-away party

The Memorial Bridge, responsible for connecting Portsmouth and Kittery, Maine, since 1923, closed in July and now, a number of organizations are getting together to give it a proper goodbye. On Saturday, Oct. 1, from 2 to 8 p.m., they are hosting Lift Off: A Farewell to Memorial Bridge, along the plazas at One Harbor Place, the base of the bridge at Scott Street, and into Prescott Park. There will be live music, food, fireworks, and games for children and adults, as well as an art exhibit along the walkway to the bridge. You can also go on a walking tour of the structure and get your photo taken with it at an old-fashioned photo booth. See www.prescottpark.org.

In the spotlight



Beds on Main Street

There are all kinds of races out there: sports cars, box cars, horses. But the Henniker Chamber of Commerce is hosting a different type. Its Bedlam bed race will take place on Saturday, Oct. 1, as teams who've worked to create bed-racers will let them speed through the streets. The competition is part of Music on Main Street, a festival that includes live performances, cupcake decorating, antique cars, games and more. Trophies and cash prizes will be awarded to the fastest and most creative racers. See www.hennikerchamber.org.

dren under 15) and include food, live entertainment, games, raffles and more. Purchase tickets by calling 880-9444 ext. 102 or 103.

• **ST. JOSEPH'S BIG BAND BASH** The Radisson Armory, 700 Elm St., Manchester, Sat., Oct. 1, at 6 p.m. St Joseph Cathedral's annual fundraiser will be a '50s-themed party with cocktails, music, dinner and more. Cocktail hour will begin at 6 p.m., with music provided by a member of the Manchester Choral Society. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m., followed by dancing from 8-10 p.m. with music by the Freese Brothers Big Band. The hit song, "Fly Me to the Moon" and world travel in the late 1950s will be the theme for this year's bash. Proceeds will benefit the Saint Joseph Cathedral Roof Project. There will also be raffles, and the Manchester YMCA is providing childcare for attendees. Kids will have a pasta dinner, storytime and activities. Costs \$20 per child or \$35 for a group of siblings. Contact the Saint Joseph Cathedral Office at 622-6404 by Sept.

23 to reserve a spot. Tickets to the Big Band Bash Dinner cost \$50. Go to www.stjoesbigbandbash.org.

• **OKTOBERFEST PORSCHE AUTOSHOW** Porsche of Nashua, 170 Main Dunstable Road, Nashua, Sun., Oct. 2, from noon to 3 p.m. This Porsche car show will benefit Easter Seals New Hampshire. Attendees will be able to check out classic and exotic cars while enjoying music, prizes, a silent auction and a BBQ provided by Brothers Butcher. Admission to the show is free. Pre-register cars by calling 595-1707, e-mailing autoshow@porschenashua.com, or visiting www.eastersealsnh.org/events. Registration is \$25, with proceeds donated to Easter Seals New Hampshire. Each car registered will enter its owner into a \$100 raffle.

Pets

• **MUTT STRUTT** Fox Forest, 309 Center Road, Hillsborough, Sat., Oct. 1, from 10 to 2 p.m. Take a walk, enjoy some refreshment, watch the demos and enter one of the 50/50

Treasure hunt

An antiques expert helps you search for buried treasure

Dear Donna,

I am writing concerning the silver-plate [items] I inherited from my late mother-in-law (serving pieces, tea service, etc.). I know that these items are not worth much (if anything) but I hate to just throw them in the trash. I am a fan of Victorian designs and these pieces don't suit my taste. I have two questions: is there any place to take the pieces that don't appeal to me, and is there some place I can find more delicate designs? I am specifically looking for a flatware set.

Rhonda in Contoocook

Dear Rhonda,

First let's clarify "silver-plated": It is a base metal (brass, copper, etc.) object that has been plated with silver. Unless an object is marked sterling or 925 (with exceptions) it usually is plated. Common marks would be EPNS (electroplated nickel silver). Sometimes it might even just say silver, but remember unless it says sterling or 925 it is plated.

Victorian silver-plated items, from tea sets to flatware, are pretty easily obtainable, because there is such a limited market for them these days, except for rare or exceptional pieces. You should be able to find what you like at shops, flea markets, auctions or consignment shops. If you don't mind doing the work of cleaning you can even find pieces at yard sales.

Selling is a little tougher. Unless it is a rare

piece or an exceptional pattern the value is pretty low. So you might want to consider selling it at a yard sale or consignment shop. I would not want to be the one to invest time in cleaning for the amount of value that is in it. I would leave it to the buyer.

My opinion of silver plate is that it is underrated. There are some beautiful pieces out there, and most were made well. I would love to see a new interest in the items even if it's for new purposes. I have seen tea sets used for dresser sets to hold brushes and makeup products. I have seen cream and sugar cups used for pens and pencils. You could even use the pieces again for tea and display them in a china cabinet. Silver-plated items, once cleaned, are usually beautiful. Be careful not to scratch them as you clean them. Use a dry soft cloth and a mild polisher, nothing abrasive. It is a slow process to do a good job.

As far as searching for flatware, it shouldn't be too difficult, especially with the holidays coming up — they usually come out for sale. If I can be of any further help to you please let me know. I will keep my eyes open. Good luck in your hunt.

Donna Welch has spent more than 20 years in the antiques and collectibles field and owns From Out Of The Woods Antique Center in Goffstown (www.fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com). She is an antiques appraiser, an instructor and a licensed auctioneer. To find out about your antique or collectible, send a clear photo of the object and information about it to Donna Welch, From Out Of The Woods Antique Center, 465 Mast Road, Goffstown, N.H., 03045. Or e-mail her at footwdw@aol.com. Or drop by the shop (call first, 624-8668).

raffles. The event will raise money for WAG, We Are Animal Guardians, a non-profit that rescues the state's homeless animals. Go to www.wearewag.org or call 529-5443.

OVER 50

Events

• **SOCIAL SECURITY SEMINAR** Sheraton, 250 Market St., Portsmouth, 431-2300, Thurs., Sept. 29, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Attorney Christine Woodman Casa, Partner at the local law firm, Boynton Waldron Doleac Woodman & Scott, will hold a free informational seminar on Social Security eligibility requirements. A light dinner will be served. This seminar will cover the application process, what to do when denied, supplemental income due to physical or mental illness, and more. To register, call 436-4010. Space is limited.

• **FALL SENIOR SERIES** Mariposa Museum, 26 Main St., Peterborough, 924-4555. This fall series includes four presentations for seniors: Oct. 11 - Tea connoisseur Paul Angiolillo will share "The Tea Route—Discovering the Elixir of the East." He will share knowledge and tea tales and will allow guests to sample different varieties. Oct. 25 - The Mariposa's own Terry Reeves and David Blair will celebrate the art and history of paper with their presentation "The Paper Trail." Refreshments are served after each event. The events begin at 2 p.m. Admission is \$5 (free for members). Call 924-4555 or go to www.mariposamuseum.org.

• **AARP DRIVER SAFETY COURSE** Rivier College, 420 Main St., Nashua, Oct 11 & 13, Dec. 6 & 8, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Participants will learn driving strategies and update their knowledge of today's roads, laws, vehi-

cles, and other road users. The course consists of two four-hour classes and costs \$12 for AARP members (\$14 for non-members). Some insurance companies offer a discount for taking the class. To enroll, call 594-3628.

• **ANNUAL SENIOR OUTING** Nashua High School North, 10 Chuck Druding Drive, Nashua, Sat., Nov. 19, at 11:30 a.m. (those in wheelchairs welcome to arrive at 11 a.m.). This annual outing includes a meal prepared by the students of the Nashua High School Culinary Arts Program, to be served at 12:15 p.m. There will also be raffles and music. Tickets are free for Nashua residents age 60 and older. Tickets can be picked up beginning Mon., Oct. 17, at 9 a.m. at the Recreation Office in Greeley Park. Limit 2 tickets per person. Seating is limited to the first 250 seniors who register at the Recreation Office. Call 589-3370.

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GARDENING GUY

A time to harvest

Pay attention and you'll know when to pick what

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

Sometimes it's tough to know just when to pick things in the vegetable garden. We don't want to pick produce before it's ready, but neither do we want to pick it after our fruits have passed their prime. And to confuse matters even more, each variety of vegetable has its own moment of perfection.

I remember the first time I grew 'Green Zebra' tomatoes and waited for them to get ripe. They didn't appear to. Then a few fell off the vine — they were overripe. The only way I could tell they were ripe was by the feel. When they started to get soft, they were ripe. But mostly I pick tomatoes by their color.

Green beans are best before they show the lumps that are the individual seeds. Young beans are delicious, but of course, you don't want to pick them when they are too young, as you'll get less production that way. Some beans, especially pole beans like 'Kwintus' (from Cook's Garden Seeds), are still very tasty when you can see individual beans in the pods. Part of knowing when to pick is letting a few things get older than they should, and then remembering what they look like.

By now your onions have been harvested, I suppose. They are easy to identify as ready to harvest: the tops fall over and turn brown. If yours are still in the ground, go get them! Although you can pull the onions and let them dry/cure in the garden, I think it is better to dry them on a porch or deck out of the rain.

Beets taste the same, or almost, whether picked early or late. I eat the thinnings early in the season, I eat some mid-season, I harvest some after frost. Frost does not harm them — if anything, it even makes them a little sweeter. Carrots are much the same. I don't find that my big, late carrots get woody, but if the variety that you grow does get woody, pick them earlier.

Potatoes keep on getting bigger until the leaves brown up and flop over. I generally pull potatoes before then, but last year my granddaughter, Casey, grew potatoes and did not get to harvest them until the tops had pretty much disappeared. The potatoes were still perfect — though as a general rule I wouldn't let potatoes stay in the ground that late, fearing that they might rot in a rainy spell. Frost does not harm them.

Sweet peppers will turn red, but if you let them stay on the vine to get red, you lose production. If you pick them green, the plants keep on flowering and producing more peppers. Hot peppers get hotter if you let them stay on the vine until they are fully ripe.

Lettuce can be harvested as a cut-and-come-again crop, or harvested as heads. If lettuce plants start getting tall, they're getting ready to bolt and flower. So I try to pick them before they do so — a bolting lettuce gets bitter.

When broccoli heads start to show yellow, they are about to go by. The flowers



Blue Hubbard ready to pick: stem is dry and brown. Henry Homeyer photo.

are yellow, and you want to pick the heads or side shoots before the flowers appear as flowers. But if they do flower, they're still edible. And cut anything off that has flowered, so it will stimulate the plant to make more side shoots.

Kale can be harvested any time; I like to keep it growing well into the fall. Frost is not a problem, nor is snow. I keep picking kale until the temperatures go down into the teens. The oldest leaves, down at the bottom of the plant, can get a little tough with time. Be sure to remove the central rib before you cook or freeze the leaves.

Summer squash can be picked very small or quite large. Patty pan squash, one of my favorites, is perfect at the 4-inch-diameter size, though I know someone who picks it at the 2-inch size, almost bite sized. Zucchini grows so fast that I often find some, the escapees, that are 18 inches long. Those I quarter lengthwise and scoop out the seeds. Then I run them through the shredder (top) blade of my food processor, making a nice mixture that I freeze as is. I use it as a base for making winter soups.

Speaking of winter, winter squash are a bit tricky to pick at just the right moment. What I have decided is that it really doesn't matter when you pick them. When my blue hubbards or Waltham butternuts stop growing, or when I see that the stem is drying up, I pick them. Winter squash need to be cured for some weeks before eating for the best flavor.

Apples? If you have to yank on an apple to get it off the tree, it's not ready to pick. If lots of apples are on the ground, the tree is probably ready to pick. Pears are usually picked green and ripened on a window sill or in trays in the barn. Plums, like apples, come off in my hand at a gentle touch when they are fully ripe, but I can also tell by the color.

Like much in life, practice — and paying attention — makes perfect when it comes to harvesting. That, and having enough time to go out and get in the garden when you need to. Happy harvesting!

Henry can be reached at henry.homeyer@comcast.net or P.O. Box 364, Cornish Flat, NH 03746.

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072213

On air conditioners and hairstyles



Dear Tom and Ray:

My wife and I live in the northwest corner of Georgia, and she insists on running her car's air conditioner at all times — winter, summer, spring, fall, day, night, doesn't matter. While I don't mind using it when it's hot, I think using it in winter does nothing but waste gas (as your engine does have to work harder when the air is on). But she thinks that by running it in the winter, it will keep her hair nice because, according to her, it keeps the humidity low. When we drive somewhere together, sometimes I can sneak my hand over and turn it off while she's not looking, and, after the inevitable argument that results from my surreptitious action, I can't ever tell any difference in her hair. But she insists that she can. We've

argued back and forth about this for 10 years now, and I think it is finally time we settled it once and for all. Should I consult a hairstylist on this question, or can you guys help us end this argument? — Jeff

TOM: Jeff, here's what you need to realize: Once your wife divorces you, she'll use the air conditioning whenever she wants, since she'll be getting the car. And you'll be living in a refrigerator box.

RAY: My brother knows where-of he speaks, Jeff. When he got divorced the second time, he had to downsize to a studio refrigerator box.

TOM: You need to give it a rest, man. You've been on her case for 10 years over this? Who cares? If she says it makes her hair look better, then it looks better.

RAY: She's probably right. Using the air conditioner decreases the humidity in the air. And everybody knows that humid days are bad-hair days. Of course, humid days for me are "no hair days." Just like every other day.

TOM: On many cars, the air conditioner automatically goes on when you turn on the defroster. Why? For the same reason your wife uses it:

To remove moisture from the air and clear water vapor off the inside of the windshield faster. If you've got one of those cars, you're using the AC in the winter whether you know it or not.

RAY: So, consider the facts, Jeff: (A) She's right. (B) You're being a pest. And (C) a divorce is much more expensive than the small amount of gas she's using to run the air conditioner. So you decide the best course of action here.

TOM: And let me know if you need a refrigerator box. I may have to downsize again soon.

Dear Tom and Ray:

I observed in a recent VW commercial that the car has a feature that automatically unlocks the doors at the time of a collision. I was always taught that locked doors make the car structurally stronger. Why would a manufacturer create this feature to unlock the doors at the time of a crash? — Mike

RAY: It's a good question, Mike.

TOM: Locked doors don't make a car structurally stronger, but CLOSED doors do. And locking the doors makes them more likely to stay closed in a crash.

RAY: The federal government has set safety standards for door latches that are quite strict. So doors almost never open anymore due to the force of the crash itself.

TOM: But the one weak link is the door handle and the rods that it connects to. If your car is moving very fast at the time of a crash, the inertia can move that handle or the rods it attaches to in the door, and that can unlatch the door — as if you'd pulled the handle.

RAY: But if a door is locked, the handle becomes inoperative. You can pull on it or push on it, but it's detached from the rods that activate the latch, and the door won't open.

TOM: That's why it's recommended that you keep your doors locked when you're driving. And why many cars automatically lock the doors when you start driving.

RAY: VW's crash-response system is designed to shut off the ignition switch, cut the fuel-pump relay, turn on the hazard lights and unlock the doors. And all this stuff is activated the moment the air bag and seat-belt pretensioners deploy -- which is during an accident.

TOM: I'm guessing that VW's thinking is that if you're in a serious

accident, it's best to have the doors unlocked so that emergency personnel can have quick access to you.

RAY: But in doing so, it seems that it may be increasing the chances, at least slightly, of unlocked doors flying open during the latter part of a collision, which weakens the protection the car provides and makes it possible for you to fall out if you're not properly belted.

TOM: It would make more sense for VW to program in a delay, so that the doors unlock a few seconds later, presumably after the vehicle has come to a complete stop. After all, first responders are fast. But they're not that fast.

RAY: So we'll suggest it to VW, Mike. In fact, you're joining us in suggesting it to them right now.

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE

Pigs scrambled, dogs served

Deerfield Fair celebrates its 135th year

By Karen Plumley
listings@hippobpress.com

New England's oldest family fair will kick off its 2011 events on Thursday, Sept. 29, and run through Sunday, Oct. 2, at the Deerfield Fairgrounds on Route 43 in Deerfield. The gates will open early Thursday morning, at 8 a.m., with opening ceremonies at 9 a.m. According to Deerfield Fair Association President Sheryl Bolduc, more than 100,000 people are expected to attend the fair at some point during its four-day run which will include everything from agricultural competitions like the pig scramble to entertainment to favorite fair foods like hot dogs.

Local and state dignitaries will attend the opening ceremonies, including Governor John Lynch and members of the New Hampshire Army National Guard.

"For just a \$10 ticket, you can enjoy every show and exhibit on the fairgrounds... The only thing that will cost extra is the midway, where guests will find a huge selection of food and amusement rides..." Bolduc said. There will be no alcohol allowed on the premises, and no gambling or games of chance.

"This fair celebrates agricultural heritage and is for families of all ages," she said.

Animals alive

Bolduc said the fair is primarily centered on animals. There will be horse shows, cattle competitions, sheep herding and 4-H demonstrations, and swine and poultry judging. The horse-pulling events are quite amazing, with some horses pulling more than 3,000 pounds. Oxen and cattle pulling will take place at various times. Daily pig scrambles for children and adults are fun-filled events, too; they are set up for different age groups each time, so competitions will be fair for the participants.

Fair food

Bolduc, who has been president of the Deerfield Fair Association for seven years and personally involved in the fair for 42, claims there are those who wait all year just to eat the Deerfield Fair food, which includes everything from sausage subs and hot dogs to old-fashioned cotton candy.

"The biggest thing for most people is the food. Some people will plan their whole day at the fair around their visits to the midway. Sausage, fried dough, funnel cakes and fresh, homemade apple crisp are just some of the wonderful offerings available. There's something for everyone," Bolduc said.

Entertainment line-up

Darlene Heon is in charge of entertainment for this year's Fair.

"Several old favorites will be returning this year, like the Wallendas, a family circus show with performances every day, and Southern Breeze, a Southern rock band who will be performing on Friday and Saturday nights. BJ Hickman Master Magician will be there and still manages to fill the seats at every show after many years. He is another fair favorite," she said.

"Mad Science is coming for the second year doing engaging and educational shows. New acts this year include Puppeteer Donna Marie and Her Friends and Wayne from Maine, who



Pig scrambles are held every day of the fair at 2 p.m. Courtesy photo.

the children truly love," Heon said. Strolling performers like Rick Adams (Professor Paddy Whack) and Sean McDaniels ("I'm Not a Clown") will provide entertainment on the go.

Also look for shows by the Heel & Toe Dance Club, the Granite State Cloggers, Vic & Sticks Recycled Rhythm, and Lee Lewis and the Doo Wop Allstars.

Visitors can watch the crowning of the 2012 Miss Deerfield Fair on Friday, Sept. 30, at 7 p.m. on the show/circus stage.

Monster pumpkins

A farmers' market will be onsite offering produce fresh from the harvest, and there will be a farm museum for those interested in New Hampshire farming history. Guests will be treated to tractor and log-cutting (woodsman) contests.

The monster pumpkins and squashes are sure to be a big hit; on Thursday night, Sept. 29, in cooperation with the New Hampshire Giant Pumpkin Growers Association, the fair will hold a "weigh off." Last year Bruce Hooper of Belmont brought in the winning pumpkin at 1,326 pounds. Goffstown's Peter Carter's pumpkin was a close second at 1,266 pounds. If you have a super pumpkin or squash growing in your garden, bring it in by 6 p.m. on Friday. Anyone is eligible to enter and no pre-registration is necessary. Winners will be announced in two divisions: adult (age 16 and older) and junior (under age 16) and the top five will share cash prizes.

135th annual Deerfield Fair

Hours: Thursday, Sept. 29, through Saturday, Oct. 1, from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday, Oct. 2, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Admission: \$10 adults, free for children 12 and younger, \$7 for 65+ on Thursday and Friday

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Is new better?

Change confuses and frightens me

By John Andrews
jandrews@hippopress.com



Once users get used to a service, it's dangerous to futz around with how it works. Change too much too quickly and they'll bolt. Being overwhelmingly dominant in your specific space can stem your losses, since there's nowhere for people to go, but both Netflix and Facebook are finding out that evolution is a difficult process

The change to Netflix's pricing scheme took effect this month; users saw separate line items for streaming video and mailed DVDs on their billing date in September. For some, this change meant a 60-percent increase with no new features.

In an apparent attempt to justify or explain the change, Netflix's CEO sent out an e-mail and updated the company's blog in the wee hours of Sunday, Sept. 18. It wasn't just that the two services would be billed separately; they would soon be two entirely different companies. Streaming would keep the Netflix name, while DVDs through the mail would be called Qwikster. The queues and user reviews would be entirely disassociated.

If Netflix was intent on making a stupid announcement, it could've picked a worse week. Just three days later, mere minutes from the end of Tuesday, Sept. 27, Facebook's primary interface, the news feed, just went and changed. Suddenly no one was talking about Netflix anymore.

I've been glued to Facebook for the past few weeks, so I saw it refresh right at 11:30 p.m. Gone were the two links up top, "Top Stories" and "Most Recent," which let you switch back and forth between the updates the site algorithmically determined you'd be most interested in

and a purely chronological view. Now you had to scroll down to get past the Top Stories; the easy escape from the filter bubble was gone.

Less immediately noticeable, but even more significant, was the ticker that suddenly appeared in the upper right-hand corner. It was constantly updating, telling you every action your every friend was taking in real time. I can only imagine that people with more friends than me saw only a blur. (Pity, party of, what else, one!)

Before the ticker, you'd have to visit someone's profile to see everything they'd done recently. And you certainly couldn't see everyone's activity as it happened.

The changes spawned their own repeated memes. Copied and pasted instructions on how to keep your activity from going into the ticker, or to keep friends' comments on your activity from showing up. A captioned photo of a rapper that I'm not sure I could fully explain if I tried.

But even more changes were announced at Facebook's annual conference, f8, last Thursday. The Timeline will be the new look of everyone's profile as of Sept. 30, with a single center line stretching from the present all the way back to your birth date. You can jump to a year with ease and highlight major life events like getting married or changing jobs.

Since the line is in the middle of the page, with your posts sprouting off on both sides, it can be confusing to browse. If this is the future of the news feed, they have some serious design cleanup to do.

There's also Facebook Music, which links to several online music services and clutters up your friends' feeds with what you're listening to, as if they care. Seriously, everybody's taste but mine sucks, right?

For a site that never, ever changes and certainly never prompts user whining, visit twitter.com/CitizenjaQ.

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Weekly Dish

Notes from the local food scene

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

• **Wingless:** Only a few months after closing their Manchester location, Wings Your Way owners Kirby and Cory Nadilo announced on Facebook the closing of their North Hampton eatery on Sept. 23. “Wings has been our life for 7 years and adjusting to a world without it for us is going to take some time,” wrote the siblings in the farewell to their patrons.

• **Fall fare at T-Bones:** T-Bones Great American Eatery (25 S. River Road, Bedford, 641-6100; 39 Crystal Ave., Derry, 434-3200; 77 Lowell Road, Hudson, 882-6677; 1182 Union Ave., Laconia, 528-7800; 311 S. Broadway, Salem, 893-3444; t-bones.com) has added Golden Harvest Bisque (a creamy soup made with butternut squash, fresh root vegetables, and hints of cinnamon and nutmeg, finished with a touch of curry sour cream and chopped hazelnuts), Two-Cheese Fondue (made with a cheddar blend, Gouda, bacon, onion and Riesling wine, served with soft pretzel sticks, sliced green apples and beer-simmered bratwurst sausage), Apple Maple Barbecue Ribs (basted with sweet and savory Apple Maple Barbecue Sauce, served with potato au gratin and honey-roasted root vegetables), Butternut Squash Lasagna (layered with cheese, spinach and noodles, baked with a white cheese sauce) and Oktoberfest Chicken (a slow-roasted half chicken marinated in Sam Adams seasonal beer, crusted with a German dry rub and served with honey-roasted root vegetables and butternut squash lasagna) as new seasonal menu items.

• **Bring the whole family:** Bedford Village Inn, 2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com, will offer Sunday Roast Dinners in its dining room, from 5 to 8 p.m., through March 25. Sommelier Jon Carnevale will pair the ever-changing hearty three-course meals, prepared by Executive Chef Benjamin Knack, with a selection of red wines throughout the winter. The dinner costs \$35 (wine is not included). Reservations are recommended.

• **The animals are numero uno:** Twenty percent of all sales at Uno Chicago Grill Amherst Street in Nashua on Sunday, Oct. 2, from 11 a.m. to 1 a.m., will benefit the Animal Rescue League of NH. To be part of the cause, download and print an Uno’s Dough Raiser Ticket at rescueleague.org/events.cfm.

• **Two chances for chocolate:** Chocolatier Richard Tango-Lowy of Dancing Lion Chocolate will join forces with WineNot Boutique and A&E Roastery at the Holiday Inn on Northeastern Boulevard in Nashua on Wednesday, Oct. 5, from 7 to 9 p.m. At the event, which will benefit the Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter, Tango-Lowy will dole out samples of his new “Entranced” peach and Utopian Mead truffles. Tickets cost \$15 at 888-0608. Tango-Lowy will also share his homemade sweets at the Manchester Choral Society Annual Wine Tasting & Auction on the Brady Sullivan Concourse, 1000 Elm St., Manchester, on Friday, Oct. 14, from 6 to 9:30 p.m. Tango-Lowy plans to serve “Maiz,” his sweet corn and jalapeño truffle made with Guatemalan chocolate, at the

Continued on page 48

Center of the chili universe

Three champs look for repeat as Manch again hosts world’s cook-off

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

The first weekend of October will be another spicy one for the city of Manchester.

The 2011 World’s Championship Chili Cook-off will be held in Veterans Park from Friday, Sept. 30, through Sunday, Oct. 2. It will be the Queen City’s second consecutive year hosting the event, which drew more than 25,000 chiliheads and 400 competitors in 2010.

“It was a great event last year and we were excited that the [International Chili Society was] willing to come back,” said Chris Wellington, marketing & retention specialist in the Manchester Economic Development Office. “I think it shows how well it went and that when compared to other cities like Las Vegas and San Diego, we can compete with them.”

Manchester beat out Las Vegas to host the event last year. Carol Hancock, chief executive officer of the International Chili Society, said when Manchester presented an offer to host the 2011 event in response to a request for proposal submitted by the organization, she was happy to accept it. “Year Two is always easier,” she added.

Hancock noted that she found the Queen City to be a great fit for the event.

“Our people liked it and it seemed to be received quite well by the crowd and people of Manchester,” she said, adding that the city reportedly saw an economic impact of \$1.5 million from the 2010 cook-off. Hancock also said it was convenient for competitors staying at the Radisson Hotel to be able to wheel their equipment across the street to the park.

Holding the competition at Veterans Park rather than Livingston Park or Stark Park allows for the city to better show what downtown Manchester has to offer, Wellington said.

“People that come here are hopefully shop-

ping downtown or eating downtown,” he said. Elm Street will be closed to traffic between Merrimack and Central streets during the event.

Nearly 400 competitors will present their best chilis and salsas to more than 300 judges over the three-day event. Hancock said seeing all of the cooks that has become her favorite part of the cook-off.

“I try to get to a lot of the [ICS-sanctioned] cook-offs ... but we do operate as a nonprofit so there is not much of a travel budget,” she said. “The World’s Championship provides me an opportunity to see people I might only see once a year, and I love being able to meet the new cooks.”

The Last Chance Cook-off will start the event on Friday; Chili Verde and Salsa competitions will be held on Saturday and the main event, the Red Chili contest, will be held on Sunday. All three champions from last year’s World event will be back to defend their titles, Hancock said. To qualify for the World’s Championship Chili Cook-off, chili cooks must place first in one of the 200 ICS pre-qualifying events, held in the United States, Mexico and Canada.

Chili verde is defined by the ICS as being made with pork or chicken, green chili peppers, green chili powder and tomatillos, also known as green tomatoes; competitive red chili entries cannot contain beans or pasta, and salsa entries do not have to be made on site.

Each cooking team is given one hour to prepare ingredients and must wait until the official start time to get its stoves going. After their hour of preparation, each chili team gets three hours for cooking.

If you’re still looking to throw your chili hat into the competition ring, entries for the Last Chance Chili Cook-off will be accepted until the morning of Sept. 30 (applications can be



Tom Hoover, winner of last year’s World’s Chili Championship Cook-off in Manchester, accepts his \$25,000 check at Veterans Park. Courtesy photo.

found at yourmanchesternh.com/chili). To qualify for the last-chance cook-off, entrants must first become members of the International Chili Society and adhere to the cooking guidelines (a full list of rules can be found at chilicookoff.com). The winner of the Last Chance Cook-off will earn a spot in Sunday’s World’s Championship Chili Cook-off

2011 World’s Championship Chili Cookoff

When: Friday, Sept. 30, from noon to 6 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 1, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 2, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Where: Veterans Park on Elm Street in Manchester

Tickets: \$7 at the gate (admission gets you five chili-sampling tickets; more can be purchased onsite)

More info: yourmanchesternh.com/chili; chilicookoff.com

Happy Trails! Chili

The 2010 World’s Championship Chili created by Tom Hoover, of Columbus, Ohio

2 3/4 lbs. tri-tip sirloin beef cut in 3/8” cubes

1 15-oz. can beef broth

1 8-oz. can chicken broth

1 8-oz. can tomato sauce

1 Tablespoon granulated onion

1 Tablespoon granulated garlic

1 Tablespoon pasilla chili powder

4 Tablespoons Gebhardt chili powder

3 Tablespoons California chili powder

1 Tablespoon New Mexico chili powder

1 Tablespoon cumin

1 fresh minced Serrano chili pepper

2 teaspoons salt

2 Tablespoons Happy Trails Chili Seasoning (if available)

In large skillet brown the meat. Once cooked, drain fat and juice, then add to stock pot. Add beef broth, chicken broth and tomato sauce and simmer for ½ hour. Add remaining ingredients, cover and simmer until meat is tender. Right before turn-in, add 2 tablespoons Happy Trails Chili Seasoning Mix and simmer 5 minutes longer. Check salt and adjust to taste.

The spicy event schedule

Friday, Sept. 30

The Last Chance Cook-off will begin at noon

Noon – 1:30 p.m. The Glympse will perform

2 – 3:30 p.m. Matt Chase Group will perform

4:30 – 6 p.m. Hot Like Fire will perform

6 p.m. Last Chance Cookoff winners announced

Saturday, Oct. 1

World’s Championship Chili Verde and Salsa contest begin at 11 a.m.

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Glenn Stewart Band will perform

11:30 a.m. – noon Magician Gary Bessette

Noon – 1 p.m. onion decorating contest

Noon – 1 p.m. Meet & Greet with the Max, the Manchester Monarchs mascot

noon – 4 p.m. Vertical

Dreams will perform 12:45 – 1:30 p.m. Miss Chili Pepper Contest

12:45 to 1:45 p.m. Meet & Greet with Fungo, the

New Hampshire Fisher Cats mascot

1 – 1:30 p.m. Cuniffe Academy of Irish Dance will perform

1:30 – 3 p.m. Jamantics will perform

2 – 2:30 p.m. Junior Jazzer-cisers will perform

2 – 4 p.m. Restaurant Division Sampling

3 – 3:30 p.m. Master An’s Taekwondo students will perform

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. NHIA John Singer Sargent Choir will perform

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Shoot N’ Holler Contest

4:30 – 6 p.m. Gnarlemagne will perform

4:30 – 5 p.m. Manchester Community Music School

performance 6 p.m. Chile Verde & Salsa Winners announced

Sunday, Oct. 2

World’s Championship Chili Cookoff will begin at 11 a.m.

10:55 a.m. Color Guard Presentation

11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Tom Dixon Band will perform

Noon – 1 p.m. onion decorating contest

Noon – 4 p.m. Vertical Dreams will perform

1 – 2 p.m. Meet & Greet with Fungo, the New Hampshire Fisher Cats mascot

1:15 – 2:15 p.m. Mr. Hot Sauce Contest

2 – 4 p.m. Restaurant Division Sampling

2:30 – 3 p.m. Magician Gary Bessette

2:15 – 4 p.m. Mama Kicks will perform

4 p.m. \$25,000 Red Chili Winner announced

FOOD

and have a shot at winning the \$25,000 grand prize.

"Last year there was not a great local presence," Wellington said of the Last Chance Cook-off. "We really want someone local to take home the grand prize."

Twice in the history of the World's Championship Chili Cook-off, a Last Chance entry has taken home the grand prize, most recently in 2009, Hancock said.

"I think that sometimes the chili gets in a rut and someone comes up with a new style or phenomenal new flavor," she said. "The opportunity [to win] is there for people to capitalize on it."

Applications are also still being accepted for the competition's Restaurant Division. The Red Arrow Diner took home the title at last year's event and will be selling its 2010 World Championship chili at the cook-off this weekend.

"A lot of people love the fact that they get to try all of these chilis ... but they never know if they tried the worst chili there or the \$25,000 winner," Wellington said. "This will allow for them to see what \$25,000 chili tastes like."

Event-goers will not necessarily be tasting the cook's competition chili, Hancock said. Competitors give their mandatory 32-ounce entry to the judges and Hancock said it would not be economically feasible to serve the same product to everyone due to the high quality

of products used in their World entry and the labor involved. Many competitors will offer non-competition chili for tasting and attendees can vote for a People's Choice winner.

The format of the event has not changed much as it was so successful in its first year, but Wellington said the city decided to make the event bigger by adding a second stage that will host a variety of activities including meet-and-greets with the New Hampshire Fisher Cats and Manchester Monarchs mascots and an onion decorating contest hosted by the National Onion Association. The main stage will feature performances by local bands, musicians and dance troupes.

"We'll have a lot more going on," Wellington said. An Amoskeag Beer Garden will be set up for the weekend because "everyone knows chili and beer go together so well," Wellington said.

Wellington said his favorite part of the weekend is seeing the community come out to support the competition.

"It was so exhilarating last year not knowing what was going to happen; so many people worked on this to make it come together and we didn't know if anyone was going to come," he said. "But just to see Veterans Park so full on Saturday and Sunday that people barely had enough room to move their shoulders, it was great."

Delux to open in October

Former chef of Richard's unveils new spot in Manchester

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

Matt Provencher is back.

After a brief sabbatical from the kitchen, the former executive chef of Richard's Bistro in Manchester plans to open Delux, an eatery of his own, in October. Richard's Bistro owner Richard Vareschi shuttered the doors of his Lowell Street restaurant in August after 16 years of operation.

Provencher left his post at the Bistro in March and says he spent most of his hiatus chasing around his 10-month-old and 4-year-old daughters — and began seeking out a restaurant space to buy before meeting with Vareschi's landlord and purchasing the business from the bank. Provencher has brought back most of the former Richard's staff to join him in his new venture.

Provencher said his new eatery will offer really good, simple food similar to that of a brasserie.

"[At Richard's] I was working with a lot of foams, powders and bubbles — some people got it, some people didn't," Provencher said. "The ones that got it thought they were hilarious."

The new oversized double-sided menu at Delux will feature dinner offerings on one side, wine and cocktails on the other.

Raw bar selections have been added to the menu, including oysters and clams on the half shell, tuna tartare, lobster and shrimp cocktail, marinated calamari and oyster stew (an oyster on the half shell topped with potato vodka, bacon, scallions and sour cream).

The raw bar at Surf in Nashua, where Provencher worked in the kitchen, inspired the new eatery's moniker. The Delux is a raw bar menu favorite at Surf and features three



Delux will open in Manchester soon. Courtesy photo.

tiers of seafood.

"It was a crazy thing to look at, but I really liked the name," Provencher said. Provencher has added a "Delux" — a smorgasbord of seafood made to feed up to eight guests — of his own to his raw bar offerings.

The Hot Stone Beef Tenderloin, which was offered at the Bistro, will remain on the appetizer menu at Delux. The meal starter allows guests to cook shaved beef, tossed in pomegranate hoisin, atop a 600-degree stone at their table. Other featured appetizers will be Lobster & Corn Chowder, Foie Gras a la Delux (which will change daily), Braised Oxtail (a "rich" dish served with wild mushrooms, herbs and puff pastry), Pretzel Crusted Calamari (served with sweet & spicy mustard sauce) and, for the vegetarian crowd, "Bacon" Wrapped Tempeh (tempeh wrapped in soy bacon, served with maple gastrique and cashew basil pesto).

For diners with smaller appetites, Provencher added a section of lighter items so "people

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FOOD

can come in for a burger and a glass of wine, spend \$20 and go home happy.” His wife lent her own hamburger recipe to the offerings and even came by the restaurant to teach the kitchen staff how to make it. “She makes a great burger with all of these seasonings that I have no idea how to use,” Provencher said. It’s listed on the menu as My Wife’s Hamburger.

Among the other lighter options are wild mushroom risotto made with Heart Song Farm goat cheese, lobster & ricotta dumplings, a lobster club sandwich, and macaroni and cheese made with Robi Farms Manchewegas cheese, an aged cow’s milk cheese that Provencher likened to a parmesan.

Duck in a Jar, a Bistro favorite created by Provencher, will appear on the entree list at Delux. The idea for the dish was sparked by Provencher’s growing collection of mason jars at the time of a menu transition at the Bistro. Provencher decided fill the jars with seared duck breast, roasted carrots and onions and a stock of veal, chicken and smoked pork hocks that he said is thicker than a soup but not as thick as a demi-glace. The soul-warming concoction is cooked in the mason jar for four to five minutes.

“Last winter people were calling [the Bistro] in November to see when Duck in a Jar was happening again,” Provencher said. Foie gras and goat cheese crusted bread will be incorporated into the Delux version of the dish.

Ginger Braised Short Ribs, Soy & Honey Glazed Pig Shank (served with Swiss chard, faro and soy demi-glace) and Pecan Crusted Pork Tenderloin, a dish Provencher created while working at the now defunct Baldwin’s, will be other house specialties at Delux. A seasonal standout on the list of entrees is the Caramelized Sea Scallops, which will be served with butternut squash and apple puree, marinated apples and fennel.

“I’m going to keep the menu as seasonal and as local as possible,” Provencher said. Local cheeses will always be found on the menu.

Morning cocktails are abundant on the brunch menu, which features 11 varieties of Bloody Marys including the Bloody Molly (made with whiskey), Bloody Hog (made with bourbon and rimmed with bacon), Truffle Mary (made with truffle oil and rimmed with truffle salt), Bloody Maria (made with tequila, tomato juice, lime juice and chipotle peppers) and the Delux Mary, rimmed with brown sugar spice and served with grilled bread and foie gras.

“We joke that it’s the only \$20 Bloody Mary in town,” Provencher said of the eatery’s signature brunch beverage.

The brunch menu at Delux will feature classic breakfast dishes and a twist on some favorites such as the Peanut Butter & Jelly French Toast, Baked Oatmeal Pecan Pancakes, Salmon Hash and Toad in a Hole, one of the first dishes Provencher learned to cook as a child.

The lunch menu is filled with a variety of salads, including an Asian Chicken Salad (made with Napa cabbage, grilled chicken and cucumbers), Crispy Poached Eggs (served with spinach, maple bacon and goat cheese), a Black Pastrami Reuben and a grilled cheese sandwich.

“I’ve always been a huge fan of grilled cheese,” Provencher noted, adding that he plans to carry on the Bistro tradition of serving \$10 brunch items and \$5 lunches. He also hopes to offer Sunday family dinners once things get going at the eatery and restart the Chef Swap series among downtown restaurants in 2012.

If you still have room, the Delux dessert menu features Coconut Macadamia Nutballs, Goat Cheese Cheesecake, Jasmine Rice Pudding Spring Rolls (with mango and crème anglaise dipping sauce), Warm Toffee Pudding (served with banana rum sauce) and a Vanilla Bean Crème Brulee that Provencher said he feels is the best in the city: “It’s just sugar, cream and egg yolk but ours is done properly,” he said. Mason jars are used in the Bananas Foster presentation as Provencher noted it is difficult for servers to make the dish tableside when the restaurant is busy. For the Delux Bananas Foster, the cake will be baked in the jar and will be topped with bananas, rum and a scoop of ice cream.

Provencher will likely repaint the space and install new carpeting at Delux, but, having designed the restaurant space while employed at Richard’s, he said there is no sense in making drastic changes to it.

“I want to be kind of anti-fine dining — no tablecloths, no candles, no flowers; just good food, good service and no fluff,” he said. Provencher will invite students and staff from the New Hampshire Institute of Art to hang their artwork at the restaurant on a rotating basis.

“I’m just excited to get back to cooking. I’ve been cooking at home ... it’s just not the same,” Provencher said. “I miss the interaction ... I love seeing the customers smile because they love the food or because it brought back some memory.”

Delux
36 Lowell St., Manchester

Foodie reunion

Chefs get back together at Cotton

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

Jeff Paige, chef and owner of Cotton in Manchester, is inviting you to be part of his reunion with one of his closest friends.

James Haller was the instructor of a cooking class in Amherst that Paige enrolled in when he was only 15 years old.

“It was myself and 25 women, which was kind of interesting,” Paige said. He and Haller

became fast friends and later worked together in the kitchen at Canterbury Shaker Village during the summers of 1988 and 1989. The two have not shared a kitchen since.

“I thought it would be fun to do something together again,” Paige said. Paige stayed at the Village from 1988 to 2000 before opening Cotton in Manchester’s Millyard.

Haller, of South Berwick, Maine, will join Paige in the kitchen on Wednesday, Oct. 5, from 5 to 9 p.m., along with Chicago pastry

FOOD

chef Gale Gand. The restaurant will offer a special a la carte menu, created by the trio, for dinner that evening.

"We've always had a ton of fun in the kitchen," Paige said. "[Haller] is very spontaneous and jokes about how he changes his mind at the drop of a spoon."

That being said, Paige noted that the menu is subject to change.

"He really likes to cook what inspires him at the moment," Paige said.

The a la carte menu will feature local, seasonal dishes, many of the hearty variety as the temperature has been dropping, Paige said. "I just think a la carte is easier because not everyone wants to eat all of the courses," he said. If guests do opt to order one of each course, they will receive their meal at a discounted price, Paige said. A Robert Mondavi wine will be paired with each dish as a suggestion.

"We are trying to keep everything flexible and affordable," Paige said.

Haller, now 69, opened The Blue Strawberry restaurant in Portsmouth in the early '70s and was one of the first chefs on the East Coast to serve dishes created using all local farm and seafood offerings. He closed the eatery, where The Black Trumpet now sits, in 1986.

"I always liked [Haller's] style of cooking — he's an untrained chef and does a lot of unconventional, not typical, interesting combinations," Paige said. "He has a way of putting things together that always really works."

Haller, author of *The Blue Strawberry Cookbook* or *Cooking Brilliantly Without Recipes*, went on to pen the *Cooking in The Shaker Spirit* cookbook with Paige. Gand is also an accomplished cookbook author and worked as the host of *Sweet Dreams* on the Food Network.

Gand and Paige have never met in person but were introduced in January via e-mail by a mutual friend who had learned of Gand's fondness for the Blue Strawberry; she had made the pilgrimage from the Midwest to the now defunct Portsmouth eatery in 1976 as a college student.

"She said the Blue Strawberry changed the way she thought about food," Paige said. Gand is now part owner of Tru restaurant in



(from left) James Haller, Jeff Paige, Gale Gand. Courtesy photos.

Chicago, Ill., where she is also the executive pastry chef.

Paige reached out to Gand in an e-mail to see if she would like to participate in his reunion celebration with Haller, and she said yes. "She flipped out," Paige said. "She told me it was the greatest e-mail she had got in a long time."

Gand was scheduled to arrive at Cotton on Tuesday, Oct. 4, to get to work on preparing desserts for the special evening. She told Paige she was trying to come up with a recipe that would involve both strawberries and sour cream because the Blue Strawberry was known for serving fresh strawberries dipped in sour cream and rolled in sugar.

If the weather cooperates, Paige will consider holding the dinner on the patio, but otherwise diners will be dispersed throughout the restaurant as there will be no formal organization to the evening other than good food and visits by the three chefs.

"It will be a lot of fun to have Jim around; he is a longtime nationally known chef ...," Paige said, "and Gale is a nationally renowned pastry chef."

The Reunion at Cotton

75 Arms St., Manchester, 622-5488, cottonfood.com, will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 5, from 5 to 9 p.m. Reservations are recommended.

Specials to be served include Mediterranean Fish Soup (made with tomato broth, onions, carrots, fennel, sweet bell peppers and haddock), a Le Shred Salad (made with shredded celeriac and fennel, served over mesclum greens with a New Hampshire maple maitre d' vinaigrette), Wild Mushroom Stuffed Pork Chop (with red wine onion sauce) and Cassoulet (a slow-braised dish of onions, carrots, turnips, sausage, duck confit and white beans in a white wine mustard sauce).

Apple season in Hollis

New music to premiere at this year's festival

By Karen Plumley
listings@hippopress.com

Guests can enjoy homemade apple goodies at the much-anticipated annual Hollis Apple Festival, taking place in Monument Square at the Hollis Town Common on Sunday, Oct. 2, from 2 to 4 p.m.

This traditional event that dates back to the 1950s is cosponsored by the Hollis Town Band and the Hollis Woman's Club, and with at least 140 volunteers, both groups will be serving up plenty of pie, crisp and cider, while patrons are treated to the sounds of the Hollis Town Band and performances from several soloists.

Hollis Woman's Club President Lori

Dwyer described the festival as a "community celebration of the agricultural heritage of Hollis with good, wholesome family fun and entertainment." At least 1,000 guests are expected, but if the weather cooperates, that number could peak at 2,000 at some point during the afternoon.

The event is a fundraiser for the club as well as the band, with much of the funds going to philanthropic causes focused on education and scholarships in the community, as well as to help support the day-to-day operations of both groups.

"Funds will be going to two Hollis Brookline High School scholarships (a four-year and a two-year), and an alternative scholarship for single women with a family

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072088

FOOD

returning to work," Dwyer said. In addition, the Hollis Woman's Club supports the K/first-grade bus orientation, the Hollis Fire Department, Beaverbrook and many charitable organizations.

According to Hollis Town Band President David Bailey, "The Hollis Town Band uses the money it earns from this festival for scholarships it gives out in the spring, as well as to buy new music to perform, pay for the rental of the Hollis Town Hall for rehearsal space, pay for the expenses for our no-admission-charge holiday concert as well as other expenses necessary to keep the band running from year to year."

Children will enjoy a variety of games, face painting and a candy shop booth, as well as homemade apple crisp, cider from Lull Farm and apple pie. Pets are also welcome to come along and enjoy treats. Families that love pie will also have a chance to purchase a whole one from the Hollis Woman's Club.

"We will be making extra pies to sell at the festival," noted Hollis Woman's Club Vice President Kimber Harmon. "In the old days, the ladies used to enjoy sitting around and peeling apples together in preparation for the festival. These days, however, we get them prepared ahead...so we have the time to make crisp and pies for the event."

Harmon also noted that homemade ice cream — the perfect complement to either crisp or pie — is being provided by a local favorite, Dr. Davis Ice Cream of Pepperell, Mass. And as if that isn't enough, local orchards Lull and Brookdale of Hollis will have U-Pick apple sales during the weekend.

Ten local artists will exhibit their wares for viewing and purchase at the festival. Visitors can browse these displays while listening to the two-hour performance by the Hollis Town Band. According to Band President David Bailey, a number of band members will be stepping forward to perform solos, too.

"This year, Suellen Davidson from Hollis will be singing 'I've Got Plenty of Nothing' and Rex Atwood from Nashua will play tenor sax on 'Embraceable You,'" he said.

Bailey also said that at the festival the band will feature the premiere of a new march titled "Noble Spirit" by international-



Pie! Courtesy photo.

ally renowned band composer Ed Madden, whose wife Kathy used to play with the Hollis Town Band when she was a young girl living in the area.

"Ed and Kathy live in Arizona most of the year, but several years ago they bought a house in Peterborough, where they spend late spring, summer and early fall, and they make the trip over to Hollis on a weekly basis to play with the Hollis Town Band," Bailey said. Madden just published "Noble Spirit" — originally written as a college graduation march — and is giving the Hollis Town Band a chance to be the first to perform his published edition.

For aspiring conductors, the festival will be holding a special raffle: the lucky winner will get to conduct the band during a portion of the performance on Sunday. The novice conductor will be instructed on the proper use of the baton before getting out there on the platform.

"We are anticipating a great festival this year, with a great turnout. We will most likely get guests from all over; some may even come in motorcycles and convertibles," said Woman's Club VP Kimber Harmon. In addition to the festival taking place on Sunday afternoon, there will be an AppleFest Half Marathon on Saturday, Oct. 1, at 10 a.m. For more information on the marathon, visit www.applefesthalfmarathon.com. To learn more about the cosponsors and the Hollis Apple Festival, visit the Hollis Woman's Club at www.holliswomansclub.org or the Hollis Town Band at www.hollistown-band.org.

Elm Street gets new market

Beanstalk founder ready to open Mill Town

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

Jane Beaulieu has always had an entrepreneurial spirit.

She opened Not So Plain Jane's Salon & Spa in Manchester in 1981 and sold it in 1995 before opening the eatery Jane & the Beanstalk (now Jewell & the Beanstalk) in 1999, which is now run by her daughter.

Having always been fond of Dean & DeLuca in New York, Beaulieu said she had been thinking about opening a marketplace of her own for some time and had been eying the vacant Elm Street storefront for six months. Since her 25-year-old nephew decided to come on board as an investor, Beaulieu has been able to see her market plans start to come to fruition.

Beaulieu plans to open her Mill Town Market on Elm Street in Manchester in October in a space that has served the community as a high-end boutique for men, a T-shirt store and a clock shop. Beaulieu will have the old marble entryway polished and has put in a call to the local historical society to learn the significance behind the letters P&Q that are emblazoned on it.

The black and blue art deco storefront will be transformed into a gray exterior with terra cotta accents so the space will blend in more smoothly with the street and its neighbors, Beaulieu said. The interior walls, once red and black, have been primed and are ready for Beaulieu to splash with colors of her own choosing. She removed a wall from the back of the shop to accommodate more storage.

FOOD

"It's very important that [the space] is really nice," Beaulieu said, having just washed pale yellow paint off her hands from painting the first wall of the shop.

Beaulieu plans on carrying mainly local offerings at her market. She noted that, having served for six years on the state's agricultural committee, she has gained plenty of knowledge about products from local and regional farms.

On the platform of one display window will sit a specialty cake baked by Beaulieu's niece, owner of Mitta Sweets, and another section of the shop will be entirely dedicated to sweets from the Mill Fudge Factory in Bristol. Beaulieu anticipates carrying 12 flavors of fudge, the names of the varieties scrawled on a narrow chalkboard wall behind the display. Next to the fudge will sit European pastries and breads from Dutch Epicure Bakery in Amherst and seasonal local produce. Beaulieu hopes to also offer local milk and eggs.

Small sections of the store will be devoted to pasta from Vermont Pasta — Beaulieu noted one of her favorite offerings from the company is the Gorgonzola Hazelnut Apricot Ravioli — and fresh cut flowers; Beaulieu will serve as the shop's floral arranger.

"Between the cakes, the fudge and the flowers we will be able to do some really nice weddings," she said.

Beaulieu said she wanted to create a market that would allow for her customers to buy everything they would need for dinner; she will have recipes on hand that feature ingredients sold at the shop.

A deli unit will feature cheeses, sauces and fresh meats, including free-range chicken, bacon and cured ham.

"I went to Spain a few years ago and fell in love with cheese and cured meat," Beaulieu said. A small frozen foods section will hold primarily seafood.

Legumes, brown rice and flour from Grist Mill in Littleton will be sold in bulk so customers can buy the products in desired amounts.

"The visual will be beautiful," Beaulieu said.

A wall of the shop will be lined with white shelving filled with preserves made by Beaulieu and her sister. They have eight flavors ready to go, including strawberry lemon marmalade, hot pepper jelly



Jane Beaulieu plans to open Mill Town Market on Elm Street in Manchester in October. Angel Roy photo.

and Concord grape jam made with grapes grown by Beaulieu.

Penny candy — which Beaulieu will actually sell for a penny — will fill an antique grocery case set up in the center of the shop.

"I want families to be able to come here and buy something for everybody," Beaulieu said. Beaulieu plans to also eventually offer specialty beer selections.

In addition to edible items, Mill Town Market will carry linens (tablecloths, dish towels, etc.) sewn by Beaulieu and pottery made by her friend.

Since Beaulieu received the key for the storefront on Aug. 7, she has kept the door wide open for visitors interested in how she will use the 650 square feet of "very manageable" space. An elderly woman recently stopped in the shop and asked Beaulieu if she planned to carry creamed corn: Beaulieu told the woman if she would buy it, she would sell it at the market.

"I love having a small business and I love to meet people," Beaulieu said, adding that she is looking forward to being her own boss again and is excited to have selected the downtown area as the home for her newest business venture.

"This will give me an opportunity to spend more time with Intown Manchester to help make things happen downtown," she said.

Mill Town Market
1053 Elm St., Manchester

Food Listings

Farmers markets

- **AMHERST** at the Village Green on Church Street, Thursdays through October from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- **AMHERST — ST. PAUL** at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 3 Craftsman Lane, www.stpaul-amherst.org, on Fridays from 4 to 7 p.m.
- **ATKINSON** at the Atkinson Community Center parking lot, 4 Main St., www.awcc-nh.org/awcc/Farmers_Market.html, Wednesdays from 3 to 7 p.m.
- **BEDFORD** at Benedictine Park off Route 101 on Wallace Road, www.bedfordfarmersmarket.org, Tuesdays 3 to 6 p.m., through Oct. 25.
- **CANTERBURY** in the Elkins Library parking lot on Center Road, ccfma.net, Wednesdays from 4 to 6:30 p.m. through October.
- **CONTOOCOOK** at Fountain

Square in front of the train depot, (find them on Facebook), Saturdays, 9 a.m. to noon, through Oct. 15.

- **CONCORD** on Capitol Street next to the Statehouse, on Saturdays, 8:30 a.m. to noon.

- **CONCORD — EVERETT ARENA** on Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., through October.

- **DERRY** at Derry Park on West Broadway, www.derry.nh.us, on Wednesdays, 3 to 7 p.m., through Sept. 28.

- **HENNIKER** 931 Flanders Road, www.hennikerfarmersmarket.us, Wednesdays from 3 to 6 p.m., July through October.

- **JAFFREY** Coll's Farmstand parking lot on Old Sharon Road off Route 202, Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon, July through September.

- **LACONIA** City Hall parking lot on Beacon Street, www.laconiafarmersmarket.com, Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon, June 25 through Oct. 1.

- **LACONIA — MAIN STREET** Municipal parking lot between Main and Pleasant streets (find them on Facebook), Thursdays, 3 to 7 p.m. through October.

- **LEE** Old Fire Station on Route 155, Thursdays from 3 to 6 p.m., through Sept.

- **LOUDON** farmers and flea market, 610 Route 106 on Saturdays through Columbus Day, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- **MANCHESTER** held on Concord Street near Victory Park in the downtown area Thursdays from 3 to 6:30 p.m. through Oct. 20.

- **MANCHESTER — INTERNATIONAL** farmers market runs Tuesdays at the International Institute of New Hampshire, 315 Pine

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FOOD

Weekly Dish

continued from page 38

benefit. Tickets cost \$35 at mcsnh.org (\$40 at the door).

• **Try something new:** Republic, 1069 Elm St., Manchester, 666-3723, republiccafe.com, will host a wine, cheese and olive oil tasting on Wednesday, Oct. 5, from 5 to 7 p.m. The evening will feature Chebar goat cheese from Hickory Nut Farm in Lee, Errzuriz Estate Wild Frement Chardonnay and Carmenere and Las Doscintas Chilean single-olive extra virgin olive oils imported by Chaski. The tasting is complimentary but donations will be accepted to benefit the Manchester Animal Shelter and Greater Manchester YMCA.

• **All about cheese and so much more:** The second annual Brookford Farm Quark Festival, named for a traditional German cheese, will be held at Brookford Farm, 70 Sligo Road, Rollinsford, 842-4682, brookfordfarm.com, on Sunday, Oct. 9, from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. The autumn event will feature a cooking showdown between local chefs. Participating restaurants offering samples of dishes made with local food will include The Black Trumpet, Flatbread, White Heron Tea, Meaghan's Chocolates and Henry's Market of Newcastle. Cowpie bingo, pumpkin carving and a cake walk will be set up for children, and Mill City Ramblers, Deep Hole Road and the Freedom Rangers will perform. Workshops on cheese making, baking with whole-grain flour, butchering poultry and preserving fall vegetables will be offered in the morning. Call 842-4682 for information.

• **Fall is a time for feasting:** The third

annual Fall Feast Week in Nashua will run from Monday, Oct. 17, through Friday, Oct. 21. During the week-long Great American Downtown-hosted event, participating downtown Nashua restaurants will offer fixed-price meals, dining discounts and tastings. Call 883-5700 or visit greatamericandowntown.com for an updated list of participating eateries.

• **Wine and chocolate, for the animals:** The third annual Wine and Chocolate Tasting to benefit the Manchester Animal Shelter will be held at The Derryfield Country Club, 625 Mammoth Road, Manchester, on Saturday, Oct. 22, from 6 to 10 p.m. The \$30 ticket price includes appetizers, a chocolate fountain and a complimentary glass of wine. Live and silent auctions will also run during the events. Tickets can be purchased at the door or at the Manchester Animal Shelter.

• **Pick the best pie:** The Children's Museum of New Hampshire in Dover will host its third annual PizzaFest on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 5 to 8 p.m. Dover House of Pizza, Kendall Pond II, La Festa Brick & Brew Pizzeria, Papa Gino's, River Bend Pizza & Subs, Roger's Restaurant, Smiley's and Uno's Chicago Grill will compete for "Judges' Pick for Best Pizza," "Best Crust" and "Most Creative Toppings." Event-goers will have their chance to vote for "Kids' Choice Cheese" and "Grown-Ups' Choice." Activities for children and a holiday auction will also be run during the fest. Tickets cost \$10 (\$7 for children under 10, free for age 2 and younger). Reserve tickets at 742-2002 by Oct. 3.

St., Manchester, and Wednesdays

at Lafayette Park, 92 Amory St. in Manchester, both from 3 to 7 p.m.

• **MILFORD** at Granite Town Plaza on Elm Street, www.milfordnhfarmersmarket.com, Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon, through Oct.

• **NASHUA — SUNDAY** The Main Street Bridge Farmers Market in Nashua will run Sundays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Oct. 23.

• **NASHUA — FRIDAY** The City Hall Plaza Farmers Market in Nashua runs Fridays from noon to 6 p.m. weekly through Sept. 30.

• **NEW BOSTON** Town Common, find them on Facebook, Saturdays 9 a.m. to noon through October.

• **NORTHWOOD** the junction of Routes 4, 43 and 202/9, northwoodfarmersmarket.blogspot.com, Thursdays, 3 to 6:30 p.m., through October.

• **NOTTINGHAM** at Blaisdell Memorial Library, Sundays through October, 1 to 4 p.m.

• **PENACOOK** Rolfe Homestead, 11 Penacook St., Mondays from 4:30 to 7 p.m., through October.

• **PETERBOROUGH** in Depot Square, www.peterboroughfarmersmarket.webs.com, on Wednesdays from 3 to 6 p.m. through October.

• **PLAISTOW** 145 Main St., Thursdays from 2 to 6 p.m., Aug. 4 through Oct. 20.

• **SALEM** Lake Street Garden Center, 37 Lake St., www.salemnh-farmersmarket.com. Check website for information on summer market, which is scheduled to run July 10

through Oct. 30.

• **TEMPLE** at the Town Common on Route 45 Sundays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. through October.

• **WARNER** Town Hall Lawn, Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., through October.

• **WEARE** the We Are 1 Farmers Market is at the Gazebo, Fridays from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. through Oct. 7. See www.weare1farmersmarket.org.

Apple picking

• **APPLE ACRES** 52 Searles Road, Windham, 893-8596.

• **APPLEVIEW ORCHARD** 1266 Upper City Road Pittsfield, 435-3553

• **APPLE HILL FARM** 580 Mountain Road (Route 132), Concord, 224-8862.

• **BROOKDALE FRUIT FARM** 38 Broad St. (Route 130), Hollis, 465-2240.

• **CARTER HILL ORCHARD** Carter Hill Road, Concord, 225-2625.

• **CURRIER ORCHARDS** 9 Peaslee Road, Merrimack, 881-8864.

• **ELWOOD ORCHARDS** 54 Elwood Road, Londonderry, 434-6017.

• **FRENCH POND ORCHARDS** 43 Flanders Road, Henniker, 428-3000.

• **GOULD HILL ORCHARDS** 656 Gould Hill Road, Contoocook, 746-3811.

• **GREAT BROOK FARM** 335 Hackleboro Road, Canterbury, 783-4206.

• **HACKLEBORO ORCHARDS** Hackleboro Road, Canterbury, 783-4248.

• **HAZELTON ORCHARDS** Route 102, Harantis Lake Road, Chester, 867-5926.

• **HIGH HAVEN FARM** 310 Pine Hill Road, Hollis, 880-8074.

• **LAVOIE'S FARM** 172 Nartoff Road, Hollis, 882-0072.

• **LULL FARM** 65 Broad St., Hollis, 465-7079; 615 Route 13 South, Milford, 673-3119.

• **MACK'S APPLE** 230 Mammoth Road, Londonderry, 432-3456.

• **MCLEOD BROTHERS ORCHARD** North River Road, Milford, 673-3544

• **MEADOW LEDGE FARM** 612 Route 129, Loudon, 798-5860.

• **OLIVER MERRILL & SONS** 569 Mammoth Road, Londonderry, 622-6636.

• **PEACH ORCHARD CRANEY HILL**, Henniker, 428-7350.

• **SUNNYCREST FARM** 59 High Range Road, Londonderry, 432-9652.

• **WOODMONT ORCHARD** Silver Lake Road, Hollis, 465-7713.

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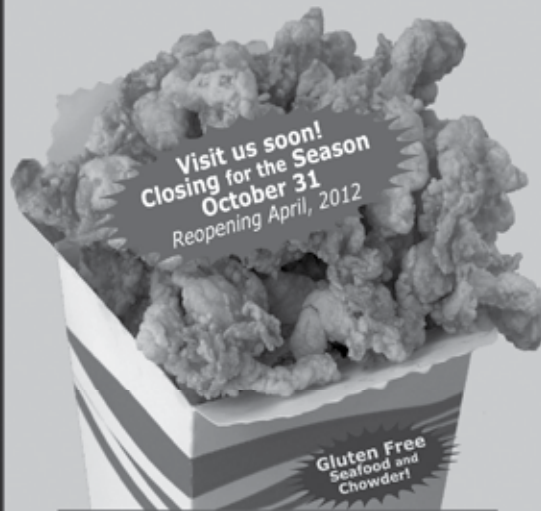
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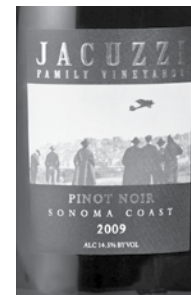
072276

DRINK

Red, white and green A lot of wine, a little cash

This week we decided to give pinot noir a try. This varietal has had some ups and downs lately with rising prices and questionable quality, but we tend to like most of them that come from the colder growing region of Carnaros, an area that sits on the northern side of the San Francisco Bay in California.

First we tried the 2009 **Sean Minor Pinot Noir Carnaros** (\$14.99). The color was blueberry chiffon according to one of the tasters, and the nose was blackberry. Pinots can easily end up being too fruity, so with such a pronounced nose, we were a bit worried. But this one ended up being very delicate. We did get flavors of blackberry and a subtle sweetness at first, but as the wine lingered we found it to be more complex, including slight tannins, giving the wine a fuller feel. With some smoked gruyere cheese the wine opened up and lost a bit of the earlier fruitiness, creating a smooth structured sip.



Our second Carnaros pinot noir was the 2009 **Jacuzzi Family Vineyards Pinot Noir** (\$16.99) from the Sonoma Coast. The color of this wine was similar to that of the Sean Minor. At that point we just decided to call it a pinot color. The

nose on this wine couldn't have been more different than the Sean Minor's. It was earthy, rather than fruity. That nose translated into the flavor too. It was a very dry red with tannic notes of earth and tobacco. While the Sean Minor was a classic California pinot, the Jacuzzi was more French Burgundy in style. The Jacuzzi could be a little harsh by itself; it would go well with fatty light-flavored foods, like duck.

Each week in "Red, White & Green," two wine-lovers look at red and white wines, none over \$20 (and most under \$15), in an attempt to find some great bottles for good prices. All prices are according to the state liquor store (nh.liquor.state.nh.us) unless otherwise stated.

Drink Listings Breweries/Distilleries/Cider

- **ANHEUSER-BUSCH** 221 DW Hwy, Merrimack. Complimentary tours include a visit to the Clydesdale Hamlet, home of the world-famous Budweiser Clydesdales. Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 595-1202.
- **FARNUM HILL CIDERS** 98 Poverty Lane, Lebanon, 448-1511, www.farnumhillciders.com
- **ELM CITY BREWING COMPANY** Colony Mill Marketplace, 222 West St., Keene, 355-3335, www.elmcitybrewing.com. Restaurant, brewery and pub, open Mon.-Thurs., 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to midnight; Sunday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- **THE PORTSMOUTH BREWERY** 56 Market St., Portsmouth, NH, www.portsmouthbrewery.com, 603-431-1115. Free tours Thurs., Fri., at Sat., at 3 p.m.
- **REDHOOK BREWERY** 35 Corporate Drive, Pease Tradeport, Portsmouth, www.redhook.com, produces Redhook ales and features the Cataqua Public House offering brews and a pub menu. Tours offered Monday and Tuesday at 2 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday at noon, 1, 3 and 4 p.m.; Friday and Saturday every hour on the hour from noon to 4 p.m.; Sunday every hour on the hour from 1 to 4 p.m. For private tours, call 430-8600 ext. 327.
- **SEBAGO BREWING COMPANY** 67 Portland Road, Kennebunk, Maine, 207-985-9855. Maine's premier restaurant and brewery.
- **SMUTTYNOSE** 225 Heritage Ave., Portsmouth, smuttynose.com, 436-4026. Free tours to the public Friday at 3 p.m. and Saturday at 11 a.m.
- **TUCKERMAN BREWING COMPANY** 64 Hobbs St., Conway, 447-5400, www.tuckerman-

brewing.com, offers tours every Saturday at 3 p.m.

Classes/workshops on wine/beer making

- **HOMEBREW COMPETITION** Judging for the sixth annual New England Regional Homebrew Competition, hosted by Brew Free or Die, will be held at Martha's Exchange in Nashua on Sat., Oct. 29, at 9 a.m. Entries of homebrewed beer, cider and mead will be accepted through Oct. 14. The competition awards gold, silver and bronze medals in 28 style categories. Proceeds from the event will benefit the American Cancer Society. Visit bfd.org/NERHBC.
- **REDS, BREADS & SPREADS** at IncrediBREW, 112 DW Hwy., Nashua, 891-2477, incredibrew.com, on Fri., Sept. 30, at 6 p.m. Make and bottle six different red wines for \$55 while sampling breads and exotic spreads. Call to reserve a spot.

Classes/workshops on beer/wine tasting

- **WINENOT BOUTIQUE** 170 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, www.winenotboutique.com, offers six-week courses on different subjects related to wine. Sign up for all six classes or for individual sessions.
- **WINE SOCIETY** (650 Amherst St. #9 in Nashua, 883-4114; www.winesociety.us) offers classes for wine-lovers of all levels. New sessions start every few months. Call for upcoming schedule.

Special meals

- **FALL WINE DINNER** The Saffron Bistro, 80 Main St., Nashua, 883-2100, thesaffronbistro.com, will host a fall wine dinner on Sun., Oct. 2, at 5 p.m., with a cocktail reception at 4 p.m. The four-course meal will feature Local Corn Bisque with Souverain Chardonnay, Open

Face Beef Tenderloin with Cotes du Rhone, Lamb Wellington with Raymond Cabernet Sauvignon and Crème Caramel with Heitz Ink grade port. The dinner costs \$85. Reservations are required.

Special wine tastings

- **EUROPEAN WINES** WineNot Boutique, 170 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, www.winenotboutique.com, is gearing up to hold two classes focusing on European wines. The first, "Wines of Austria, Germany and Alsace region of France" (\$35), will be held on Fri., Sept. 30, and feature Grüner Veltliner among five other fine wines. The second class, "Wines of Loire Valley, Burgundy and Bordeaux regions of France" (\$40), will be held on Fri., Oct. 7, and feature six French wines paired with bread and artisanal cheese. Reservations are required.
- **WINESTOCK** The fifth annual YMCA wine tasting benefit, Wine-stock will be held at the Hampshire Plaza Concourse in Manchester on Thurs., Oct. 20, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. The event will feature both a live and silent auction, as well as food from local restaurants and wine samplings. Proceeds will benefit the YMCA of Greater Manchester's Reach Out for Youth and Families campaign. Tickets cost \$50 at 232-8624 or by e-mailing Sara McCarthy at smccarthy@yogm.org.
- **WINE TASTING** Angela's Pasta and Cheese Shop, 815 Chestnut St., Manchester, 625-9544, angelas-pastaandcheese.com, has partnered with M.S. Walker to hold a three-part Fine Wine Tasting Series. A Domestic Wines tasting will be held on Tues., Oct. 25, and A Tour of Italy on Tues., Nov. 29. All tastings will run from 7 to 8 p.m. and feature five wines paired with cheese and light hors d'oeuvres. Each tasting costs \$35 per class or \$75 for all three. Call to register.

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SPOTLIGHT ON

Brookdale Fruit Farm

Hollis, NH

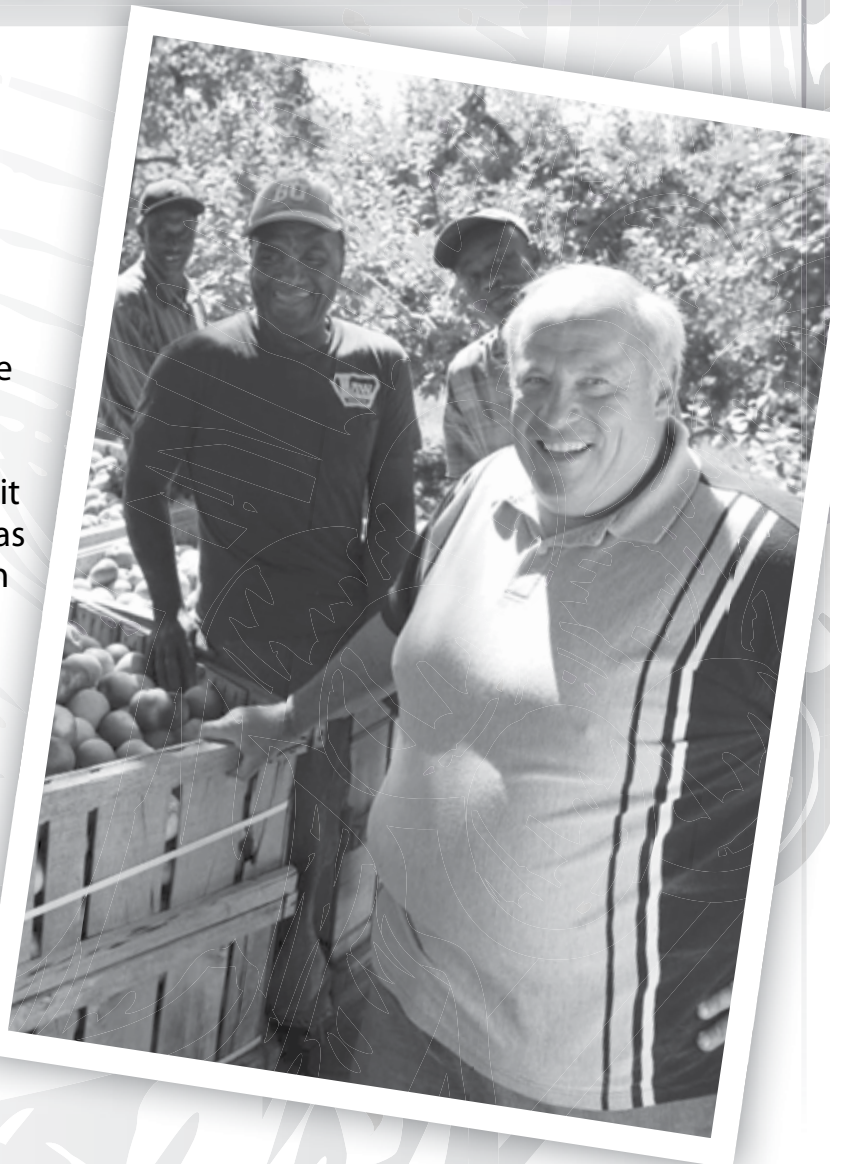
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BAKERY

- Abigail's Bread, Weare, NH
- Pie Guy, Salem, NH
- St. Julien Macaroons, Sandown, NH

MAPLE PRODUCTS

- Ben's Sugar Shack, Temple, NH
- McLure's Maple Syrup, Littleton, NH

DAIRY

- Stonyfield Farms, Londonderry, NH
- Pete & Gerry's Eggs, Monroe, NH
- Nellie's Eggs, Monroe, NH

PASTA SAUCE/PIZZA

- Rustic Crust, Pittsfield, NH
- Vito Marcello's, North Conway, NH
- Ya Mamma's, Hudson, NH

FROZEN FOODS

- Blake's Pies, Concord, NH

MEAT

- Mrs. Budd's, Manchester, NH

BEVERAGES/SNACKS

- Café Dujour Coffee, Manchester, NH
- NH20 Water, Alton, NH
- Squamscott Old Fashioned Soda, Newfields, NH
- White Mountain Kettle Corn, Henniker, NH

WINE

- Candia Vineyards, Candia, NH
- Zorvino Vineyards, Sandown, NH

BEER

- Smuttynose Brewing Co., Portsmouth, NH
- Red Hook Brewing Co., Portsmouth, NH
- Tuckerman Brewing Co., Conway, NH

SPICES

- Camp Mix, Londonderry, NH
- Healthy Solutions Spice Blends, Hooksett, NH

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- Wholistic Pet, Bedford, NH (coming soon!)

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GAMES, COMICS,
MOVIES, DVDS,
TV AND MORE**

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• They've got *The Beat*

BOOKS pg57

Includes listings for lectures, author events, book clubs, writers' workshops and other literary events. To let us know about your book or event, e-mail Lisa Parsons at lparkers@hippopress.com. To get your author events, library events and more listed, send information to listings@hippopress.com.

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• *Moneyball* **B**



• *Killer Elite* **C+**



• *Abduction* **C-**

POP CULTURE:

CDS

DJ Shadow, *The Less You Know The Better*
Verve Records, Oct. 4



What else to say but that I wholeheartedly approve of anyone who automatically turns down hyped-up offers to have his/her music co-opted for use by Apple or anyone else (fine, he threw way too much weight behind the failed *DJ Hero* video game, but that's sort of like Tony Hawk posing for Tech Deck), not to mention the fact that this San Jose sample-wonder doesn't really follow competitors like Clams Casino and whoever. Once again aiming to solidify hip-hop's seat at the rock table, he doubles the anything-goes efforts of 2006's *The Outsider* with another set that fits together exquisitely if you'll just shut up and listen

(are people even aware of underground hip-hop, serious question?). Toward this he takes a cue from Moby with babbling opener "Back to Front," then bastardizes some Judas Priest riffage in "Border Crossing," then cuts Talib Kweli loose over the '70s-chill-funk patter of "Stay the Course." And that's just the first three items — I don't know if it's because of the overall sound (the mission here is not to bust every woofer in sight, although it could) or the palette (pure color with enough dabs of antisocial goofiness to shut up the hipsters), but really, anyone with ears could like any given 85 percent of this stuff. And exactly when did Tom Vek suddenly become awesome ("Warning Call")? **A** —Eric W. Saeger

Lady Antebellum, *Own the Night*
Capitol Nashville Records, Oct. 4



It was inevitable that the antiseptic NAS-CAR-barbecue gobbledegook shoved up the public nose by these guys' debut LP was only going to lead to intolerable stupidity. Their self-titled debut had some subtlety to it, whatever, even a progressive side, but this self-congratulatory pander-fest is the purest 24-karat dud of one-dimensional suckage the trio could have ever hoped to perpetrate. The interplay between Charles Kelley and Hillary Scott's vocals is less Kelley-centric and more democratic, eventually leading to — I don't know, the overall effect is like listening on in horror as the top three country-centric contestants on *American Idol* do a big finale for their nursing home audience, and that especially goes for cowboy-rock slow-dance ballad "Just a Kiss," a worst-possible-case scenario that could be mistaken for a duet between Taylor Swift and Glen Frey — could you possibly gag me any harder? Meantime, despite its debatable musicality, the tumbling half-Celtic riff that powers "We Owned the Night" gets real old real fast, its hard-buffed exterior obviously the result of like 50 million layers where three would have sufficed — I thought this was supposed to be Fleetwood Mac reborn, not Whitesnake. Get this out of my face this instant. **C-** —Eric W. Saeger

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Playlist

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases



• Quaint folkie **Sean McCann**, whose raggedy baritone can be heard on Great Big Sea albums, recently released his second solo album, *Son of a Sailor*, an exercise in pensive unplugged poignant blah-de-blah, and it isn't bad, I'll give you that. He'll be at the Blue Ocean in Salisbury on Oct. 6 with his backup crew, The Committed.

• Safety-pin-punk imposter **Feist** releases her new album, *Metals*, on Tuesday. All anyone cares about as far as that goes is knowing whether or not she has another "1234" up her sleeve, so that people can snap their fingers and be happy again as they watch iPod commercials starring dancing milfs. Remember those days, when we were all being sold iPods by a half-hoarse milf surrounded by dancers borrowed from some Madonna video or whatever? Well, the only song with any potential to background commercials for obsolete technology of the future is "Woe Be," but there are horns in there and it's not as good, so probably the iPod age is over, so you may as well just break down and buy an old-school record player like the all the cool kids are doing.

• If you have a car and can get to a store next week, you'll notice that the holiday slop-bucket of new must-have CDs will have already been dumped onto the shelves. For classical-piano snobs, there's **Pierre-Laurent Aimard's** *Liszt Project* (double-CD set that isn't just comprised of Liszt compositions but stuff from his contemporaries and successors as well). Cowboy people will have a brand new record from **Merle Haggard**, called *Working in Tennessee* (featuring a Willie Nelson visit on "Workin' Man Blues"), as well as *The Lost Notebooks of Hank Williams*, which is a bunch of never-recorded songs that were scribbled in Hank's notebook when he was found dead in his Cadillac on New Year's Day 1953 (the tunes are interpreted here by Bob Dylan, Norah Jones, Lucinda Williams, all those total nobodies).

• Meanwhile, Xmaskwanzanukkah albums and reissues will be all over the fucking place too next week, including the **Jersey Boys' Seasons Greetings**, **Frank Sinatra's A Jolly Christmas**, and *This Is Christmas* from **Kutless**. But if you know a jazz snob who's always saying stupid crap like "Yass, yass, not many people have a [insert snobby-sounding word for "twisted fetish"] for Miles Davis's sometimes discordant modalities, but I personally prefer them, yass," you can bury him up to his neck in his own bald-faced lies with the new **Perfect Miles Davis Collection**, which is TWENTY TWO disks. Yass, duct-tape your snob-by friend to a Clockwork Orange chair until he's listened to all 22 disks and see if he really wants to hear extinct Persian scales played on a trumpet ever again. You're welcome!

—Eric W. Saeger

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They've got *The Beat*

New Friday morning talk show stays up-tempo

By Adam Coughlin
acoughlin@hippopress.com

If you find your radio tuned to WSMN on Friday mornings you never know quite what you'll hear. One moment the three hosts could be discussing what is happening that weekend in the greater Nashua area; the next they could be waxing philosophical on the pronunciation of a Hollywood actor's name before shifting gears and turning the talk to Elvis and UFOs.

It's all part of *The Beat*, a new radio show that blends entertainment news, sports, food and drink, local guests and giveaways to events in the area. The show airs on Fridays at 11 a.m. and is the brainchild of co-hosts George Papoulias, Alex Cavedon and Leia Donovan, as well as station manager Mike Winn.

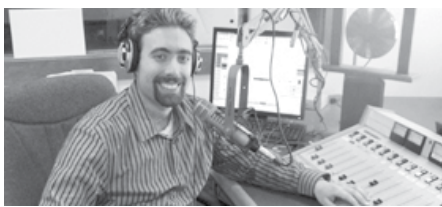
Papoulias said the station, 1590AM, is known for its political coverage and business news but they wanted to provide a balance that lightened the mood and got people excited for the weekend. Papoulias said the station has had similar programs in the past but they've come and gone and he's thought about bringing one back for a while. Before the idea fizzled out, he decided to act.

"We're going to approach it from all angles," Papoulias said. That includes talking to writers from local publications, as well as talking with event organizers and having call-ins. Papoulias said they may even experience a few places live on-air.

The show's inaugural airing was on Friday, Sept. 2. "We're up-tempo and keep moving," Papoulias said. "There is a nice flow to the show."

That flow may be attributed to Papoulias' experience on air. He is entering his second year as a producer at the station and before that he was working full-time in Lowell, Mass.

He is joined on *The Beat* by Cavedon, who is a 2009 graduate of the New England Institute of Technology and formerly



(top) George Papoulias. (middle) Leia Donovan. (above) Alex Cavedon. Courtesy photo.

of Londonderry High School. Cavedon had been interning at the station for more than six months, so Papoulias was able to establish rapport with him prior to going on the show. Donovan is from Salem and attends Rivier College in Nashua, where she is studying English and Communications.

"Everyone needs a community to lean on and our goal is to bring people together through their common interests," Donovan wrote in an e-mail. "AM radio may seem dated in today's fast-paced technological-savvy culture, but there is still an element that is alive and able to connect people to one another."

All three share a love of a music, which was an instant foundation for them to build on.

"We kind of fell into it," Papoulias said. "Our on-air chemistry is natural and we work well together but all offer something different."

POP CULTURE:

BOOKS

BOOK & LECTURE LISTINGS

Libraries

- **Amherst Town Library**
14 Main St., Amherst, 673-2288, amherst.lib.nh.us
- **Bedford Public Library**
3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford 472-3023, bedford.lib.nh.us
- **Concord Public Library**
45 Green St., 225-8670, www.concordpubliclibrary.net
- **Derry Public Library**
64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-6140, derry.lib.nh.us
- **Goffstown Public Library**
2 High St., Goffstown, 497-2102, goffstown.lib.nh.us
- **Hollis Social Library**
2 Monument Sq., Hollis, 465-7721, hollis.nh.us
- **Hooksett Public Library**
1701B Hooksett Rd., Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org
- **Manchester City Library**
405 Pine St. (main branch) and 76 N. Main St. (West branch), 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us
- **Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum**
18 Highlawn Road, Warner, 456-2600, indianmuseum.org

- **Nashua Public Library**
2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610, nashualibrary.org
- **Rodgers Memorial Library**
194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, rogerslibrary.org
- **Tucker Free Library**
31 Western Ave., Henniker, 428-3471, tuckerfreelibrary.org
- **Wadleigh Memorial Library**
49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-2408, wadleigh.lib.nh.us
- **Wilton Public Library**
7 Forest Road, Wilton, 654-2581, wiltonlibrarynh.org

Bookstores

- **Barnes & Noble**
1741 South Willow St., Manchester, 668-5557; 235 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-5961; bn.com
- **Double Midnight Comics & Collectibles**
245 Maple St., Manchester, 669-9636, dmcomics.com
- **Gibson's Bookstore**
27 South Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com
- **MainStreet Bookends**
16 E. Main St., Warner,

- 456-2700, mainstreetbookends.com
- **River Run Books**
20 Congress St., Portsmouth, 431-2100, riverrunbookstore.com
- **Toadstool Bookshop**
586 Nashua St., Milford, 673-1734, toadbooks.com.

Other

- **Manchester Historic Association**
200 Bedford St., 622-7531, manchesterhistoric.org
- **New Hampshire Humanities Council**
19 Pillsbury St., Concord, 224-4071, www.nhhc.org
- **New Hampshire State Library**
20 Park St., Concord, www.nh.gov/nhsl
- **New Hampshire Writers' Project**
SNHU, 2521 N. River Rd., Manchester, 314-7980, nhwritersproject.org
- **Rivier College**
420 Main St., Nashua, 888-1311, rivier.edu.
- **UNH Manchester**
400 Commercial St., Manchester, 641-4101, unhm.unh.edu



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POP CULTURE:

Author events

• **LOCAL AUTHORS SERIES** at Manchester City Library continues with Rosamond Van Der Linde on Thurs., Oct. 6, at 7 p.m. in the library's auditorium. Van Der Linde is the author of *A Piano in Every Room*.

• **LOU URENECK** will talk about his memoir *Cabin* on Thurs., Sept. 29, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore (double bill with Mary Johnson). Ureneck is also the author of *Backcast*, about fishing and fatherhood.

• **MARY JOHNSON** will talk about her memoir, *An Unquenchable Thirst: Following Mother Teresa in Search of Love, Service, and an Authentic Life*, on Thurs., Sept. 29, at 7 p.m. Gibson's Bookstore in Concord (double bill with Lou Ureneck).

• **NELLIE PUTUR** Hollis resident will be available to sign copies of her novel, *Nine Stories*, on Oct. 1 from 1 to 3 p.m. at A&E Roastery, 135 Route 101A in Amherst.

• **KEVIN FLYNN & REBECCA LAVOIE** local authors will talk about their book *Legally Dead* on Tues., Oct. 4, at 5:30 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore.

• **JOHN CLAYTON** will talk about his latest book, *New Hampshire: War and Peace*, on Tues., Oct. 4, at 6:30 p.m. at Hooksett Public Library. Proceeds from the sales of the book will benefit Manchester Central High School's band.

• **CHRISTOPHER ANDERSON** will give a free public reading on Wed., Oct. 5, at 6 p.m. at Chester College of New England (Powers 29), as part of the college's Visiting Writers Series for Fall 2011.

• **CHRIS BOHJALIAN** will talk about his new novel, *The Night Strangers*, on Wed., Oct. 5, at 12:30 p.m. at Nashua Barnes & Noble, free and open to the public, and on Thurs., Nov. 10, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore in Concord.

• **NEW ENGLAND AUTHORS** Nancy Sporborg (*It's Not About the Hike*), Jeff Foltz (*Birkebeiner: A Story of Motherhood and War*) and Carol Anderson (*The History of Gunstock: Skiing in the Belknap Mountains*) will talk about their books on Thurs., Oct. 6, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore.

• **DAVA SOBEL** author of *Longitude* and *Galileo's Daughter*, will talk about her newest book, *A More Perfect Heaven: How Copernicus Revolutionized the Cosmos*, on Sun., Oct. 9, at 7 p.m. in the Spotlight Café in the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com, as part of the Writers in the Spotlight series hosted by Gibson's Bookstore. General admission; all tickets cost \$6; order now online, by phone, or in person at the box office or Gibson's.

• **ERIN E. MOULTON** will read from and sign copies of her book *Flutter* on Oct. 10 at 2 p.m. at the Hollis Social Library. Copies of the book will be on sale at the event, courtesy of the Toadstool Bookshop.

• **CHAD HARBACH** will talk about his bestselling novel *The Art of Fielding* on Tues., Oct. 11, at 7 p.m. at Water Street Bookstore in Exeter.

• **JAMES MCBRIDE** visits Nashua on Sun., Oct. 16, at 2 p.m. at the Rivier College Dion Center at 16 Clement St. McBride is the author of *Song Yet Sung*, the selection for this year's Nashua Reads: One City, One Book program. Toadstool Books will be on hand selling copies of McBride's books. Tickets to the

BOOKS

In the spotlight



Science discussion series

SEE Science Center (200 Bedford St., Manchester) is hosting a Science Café in conjunction with the traveling exhibit "Seasons of Change," which is on display at SEE now through Jan. 8, 2012. The Science Café will be held at 900 Degrees Pizzeria at 50 Dow St. in Manchester on Mondays, Oct. 24, Nov. 21 and Dec. 19. The program begins at 5:30 p.m.; the restaurant closes at 9 p.m. Ten percent of the purchases during the events will be donated to the SEE Science Center and its partners in this endeavor, the Amoskeag Fishways and the Massabesic Audubon Center. The topic on Oct. 24 is "The Changing New Hampshire Environment: Do shifts in the climate matter?" The speaker is Steven Hamburg, chief scientist of the Environmental Defense Fund and an ecosystem ecologist. Trained at Vassar College, Yale and Stanford universities, he has been involved in biogeochemistry and forest ecology research for 25 years. Visit www.see-sciencecenter.org to learn more about the Science Café. Admission is free; online RSVPs are appreciated if you know ahead of time that you will attend.

presentation and book-signing \$5 in advance, \$7 at door. Attendance at the presentation plus a reception with the author, which supports the work of the Friends of the Library, is \$25. Buy tickets (cash or check only) at Nashua Public Library. See www.nashuareads.com.

• **JEFF SHARLET** will talk about his latest book, *Sweet Heaven When I Die*, on Tues., Oct. 18, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore.

• **CHRIS VAN ALLSBURG** author of *The Polar Express*, *Zathura*, *Jumanji*, *Two Bad Ants* and several other acclaimed children's books, will share his stories at the New Hampshire Institute of Art in Manchester on Tues., Dec. 6, at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$20; call 836-2537 or visit www.nhia.edu to order tickets online.

Lectures and discussions

• **PRIMARY CONCERNS: CRITICAL FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES AT THE 2012 BALLOT BOX** four-part discussion series presented by the World Affairs Council of NH, NH Humanities Council and UNHM, free and open to the public. All events held at UNHM at 400 Commercial St., Manchester, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Part 1 is "Arab Voices: What They Are Saying to Us and Why it Matters," presented by Dr. James Zogby, founder and president of the Arab American Institute, on Tues., Oct. 4. Part 2 is "China 2020: How Western Business Can and Should Influence Social and Political Change in the Coming Decade," with Dr. Michael Santor, professor of business ethics at Rutgers Business School, on Tues., Nov. 1. Part 3 is "Arab Spring: Prospects for Democracy," on Tues., Nov. 29, with Lorne W. Craner, president of the International Republican Institute, and Kenneth Wollack, president of the National Democratic Institute. Part 4 is "Debtor Nation: The Global Roots of the First Great Crisis of the 21st Century," with Dr. Jeffrey Frieden, Stanfield Professor of International Peace at Harvard University. Register to attend any

or all sessions by visiting www.wacnh.org or by calling 314-7970 or e-mailing council@wacnh.org.

• **FALL SKYWATCH** hosted by the NH Astronomical Society on Tues., Oct. 4, at 7:30 p.m. at Amherst Town Library, weather permitting. NHAS members will be on hand with their telescopes. The skywatch will be preceded by an indoor "Introduction to Astronomy" talk by amateur astronomer Ed Ting at 7 p.m. Free and open to the public. Rain date is Thurs., Oct. 6.

• **NH TOWNS IN THE CIVIL WAR** will be the topic of a discussion led by Professor Emeritus Jere Daniell of Dartmouth College on Tues., Oct. 11, at 7 p.m. at Wadleigh Memorial Library. Daniell will discuss formal town actions and community responses to the Civil War, with examples drawn from the history of the town of Milford.

• **HAUNTED HIKES OF NH** presentation by local author Marianne O'Connor on Thurs., Oct. 13, 7-9 p.m. at the YMCA of Greater Nashua, at 24 Stadium Drive, Nashua, 882-2011, nmymca.org. O'Connor will share tales from her book *Haunted Hikes of New Hampshire* and present a spooky slide show with special effects, and will be selling and signing her book at a discounted rate of \$10. There will be a raffle of seasonal items from around the state. All proceeds from book and raffle sales will go to the Supa Coop fund, established in 2010 to help local athlete Cooper Doucette and his family with medical costs. Cookies and treats will be served; admission is free.

• **MANAGING THE UNAVOIDABLE AND AVOIDING THE UNMANAGEABLE: FORESTS, WATER, PEOPLE, LAND USE AND CLIMATE CHANGE** presented by Paul Barton, professor of Forest Resources at UMass-Amherst and director of the Forest-to-Faucet Partnership, on Oct. 13 from 7 to 9 p.m. as part of a free lecture series on "The Changing Environment" at NH Audubon's McLane Center, 84 Silk Farm Road, Concord. Refreshments

POP CULTURE:

served. Call 224-9904 for info.

- **TEDxAmoskeagMillyard** will be held on Sat., Oct. 15, from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the UNH Manchester third-floor auditorium. This is the first TEDx event in southern NH and is limited to 100 attendees by invitation only, but it will be streamed live online. (TEDx events are independently organized TED events; TED is a nonprofit group working to spread ideas in technology, entertainment and design.) Speakers will include Elliott Markow, leader of the Granite State Symphony Orchestra; Dean Kamen, inventor of the Segway; Howard Brodsky, CEO of CCA Global Partners; Tony Duncan, champion juggler, and others. Visit tedxamoskeagmillyard.com.
- **WORLD AFFAIRS LUNCHEONS** hosted by the World Affairs Council of NH are held in the Salon Room at the Hospitality Center at SNHU on North River Road in Manchester. Purchase tickets in advance at www.wacnh.org, 314-7970, or council@wacnh.org. Cost is \$25 per ticket. Mon., Oct. 24, at noon: "Migration in the Relations between the U.S. and Mexico," with Daniel Hernandez Joseph, consul general of Mexico to Boston. Mon., Nov. 7, at noon: "The U.S. and Turkey," featuring Murat Lutem, consul general of Turkey to Boston.
- **DAVID BROOKS** will be the keynote speaker at the NH Humanities Council's 2011 Annual Dinner on Tues., Oct. 25, at the Radisson Center of NH in Manchester. Brooks has been a columnist for the NY Times since Sept. 2003 and has been a senior editor at The Weekly Standard and a contributing editor at Newsweek and Atlantic Monthly. He is the author of *Bobos in Paradise* and *The Social Animal*. Tickets for the annual dinner cost \$100 and support the hundreds of free events the NHHC makes possible each year. Buy tickets at www.nhhc.org.

THE BOOK REPORT

• Business book discussion group starts:

The Manchester City Library, its Foundation and the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce (www.manchester-chamber.org) are starting a business book discussion group. If you are a business person who would like to discuss current business books, join in reading *Onward: How Starbucks Fought for its Life Without Losing its Soul* by Howard Schultz for the coming month. The library currently has 20 copies of the book available at the circulation desk. Stop in, sign up for or renew your library card, take the book home and then attend the Chamber program at noon on Nov. 1 at the Chamber office at 54 Hanover St. to share your thoughts.

• NH Literary Awards ceremony Nov. 4:

The New Hampshire Literary Awards will be presented Friday evening, Nov. 4, at the New Hampshire Institute of Art in Manchester. Buy tickets for the award ceremony (\$25) at www.nhwritersproject.org. Ticket includes reception, hors d'oeuvres and libations. Radio personality Mike Morin, co-host the morning show at 95.7-WZID in Manchester, will emcee. Finalists for chil-

Book discussions

- **CONCORD READS** title is *Outcasts United: An American Town, a Refugee Team, and One Woman's Quest to Make a Difference*, by Warren St. John. A book discussion will take place in the library auditorium Mon., Oct. 3, at 12:10 p.m. (bring lunch). Other events include a visit from author Warren St. John on Thurs., Oct. 13, at 7 p.m. at Concord High School auditorium.

- **BOOKS IN THE MILL** This fall, the public is invited to join UNH Manchester library community book group members for "Books in the Mill: Home Front Impact in a World at War," a series of book discussions. For details, call the UNHM library at 641-4173 or visit www.unhm.unh.edu/events. Thurs., Oct. 20, 6:30 to 8 p.m., *Coventry* by Helen Humphreys. Thurs., Nov. 17, *The Breaking Wave* by Nevil Shute. Discussions take place in the library mezzanine. Free parking is available in the Arms lot behind the college after 5:30 p.m.

- **CLASSICS CROWD** at Milford Toadstool Bookshop reads 19th-century British classics and meets every other month to discuss books voted on by consensus. New members always welcome.

- **GIBSON'S BOOKSTORE** hosts monthly book discussions. Everyone is welcome to come for all or any of the dates. All discussion titles are 25% off until the date of their discussion. All meetings at 7 p.m. on the first Monday of the month unless otherwise noted. Oct. 3, *In the Country of Men*. Nov. 7, *Aunt Julia and the Scriptwriter*.

- **KELLEY LIBRARY** in Salem hosts a nonfiction book club, always open to new members. Wed., Oct. 12, at 7 p.m.: *The Professor and the Madman: A Tale of Murder, Insanity and the Making of the Oxford English Dictionary*, by Simon Winchester.

- **MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY** evening book discus-

sion group meets on the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Hunt Room. Oct. 13: *Ethan Frome*, by Edith Wharton.

- **MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY** Brown Bag Book Club meets on the last Tuesday of the month from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. in the Hunt Room. Bring a bag lunch and plan on an enjoyable time. Oct. 25: *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, by Mark Twain.

- **PEMBROKE TOWN LIBRARY** book discussion group meets on the second Wed. of each month at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 12: *Half-Broke Horses* by Jeanette Walls.

- **SOCRATES CAFE** meets on the first Wed. of each month 7-8:30 p.m. at Toadstool Bookshop in Milford, hosted by Rick Branch. New members and curious thinkers are always welcome.

Poetry

- **DONALD HALL** will celebrate the launch of his first full-length volume of verse in a decade, *The Back Chamber*, on Wed., Oct. 12, at 6 p.m. at Red River Theatres in Concord. Tickets cost \$6 or free with purchase/pre-order of book from Gibson's Bookstore.

Writers' groups

- **HUDSON WRITERS' GROUP** invites beginning and experienced writers to share their work and give feedback to others. This group meets the first Monday of each month 6:30-8:45 p.m. at Rodgers Memorial Library in Hudson. Call 886-6030 for info. Next meeting Oct. 3.

Other

- **BOOK SALE** and flea market Sat., Oct. 1, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in of Chester's Town Hall, hosted by Friends of the Chester Public Library. Free admission. Children's activities. Handmade crafts, local products and other items for sale, as well as used books and videos. The Chester Academy PTA will also hold a costume swap on stage.

dren's literature are *Let It Fall* by MaryAnn Cocca-Leffler, *The Memory Bank* by Carolyn Coman, *The Penny* by Andy Cutts, *Jigsaw* by Terri DeMitchell, and *Wish* by Joe Monninger. For nonfiction: *States of Grace: Encounters with Real Yankees* by Edie Clark, *Beyond the Notches: Stories of Place in New Hampshire's North Country* edited by John R. Harris, Kay Morgan, and Mike Dickerman, *Turn and Jump: How Time and Place Fell Apart* by Howard Mansfield, *Your Book Starts Here* by Mary Carroll Moore, *Headin' for the Rhubarb! A New Hampshire Dictionary (well, kinda)* by Rebecca Rule, and *Bad Blood: Freedom and Death in the White Mountains* by Casey Sherman. For fiction: *Sing You Home* by Jodi Picoult, *Corruptions* by James T. Shea, *Island Light* by Katherine Towler, and *Down from Cascom Mountain* by Ann Joslin Williams. For poetry: *Walking the Dog's Shadow* by Deborah Brown, *Then, Something* by Patricia Fargnoli, *Flinch of Song* by Jennifer Militello, *From the Box Marked "Some Are Missing"* by Charles W. Pratt, and *Slipstream* by Carol Westberg. The Donald M. Murray Award for Outstanding Journalism and the Lifetime Achievement award will also be given. New this year is a readers' choice award: go to www.nhwriter-sproject.org to vote.

—Lisa Parsons

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FILM REVIEWS BY AMY DIAZ



Moneyball

Moneyball (PG-13) Brad Pitt plays Billy Beane, general manager of the Oakland A's and a man looking to build a winning team despite having little money to lure winning players with, in *Moneyball*, a movie based on the Michael Lewis book.

And let's just stipulate up front that I know nothing about baseball. I mean, sure, I get the romance of baseball, America's pastime, if you build it, all that. But about the actual game itself and what makes a guy a good player (it seems to help if his last name sounds good being yelled in a Boston accent), I know nothing. The movie, I'm here to talk about the movie. Have a bone to pick with Beane? Direct those comments to dlong@hippopress.com.

Billy Beane (Pitt) comes off another season where his A's have fallen to bigger, better-funded teams. Now, he's facing the loss of the three big players he had to teams like the Boston Red Sox and the New York Yankees, a team that, according to the opening credits, has about \$100 million more to spend than he does. But the A's owner won't give him any more to negotiate for better players. He's left with listening to his recruiters' predictions for which affordable players will turn out to be diamonds in the rough.

That is until he finds himself at one ballpark, trying to secure a trade, and sees a kid in the back of the room tip the decision to go for a certain player against him. Why did that general manager listen to you?, Billy asks

Peter Brand (Jonah Hill), a somewhat nerdy-seeming guy, after the meeting. Peter says that the manager doesn't, really, but then lays out his own personal philosophy for picking a winning baseball team: find cheaper guys who can get on base and play them with that purpose. They might be over the hill — as is the case with David Justice (Stephen Bishop), whom Billy gets when the Yankees want to dump him — or recently injured, like Scott Hatteberg (Chris Pratt), who no longer has what it takes to play catcher but whom Billy recruits for first base. High-value, low-cost is what Billy is looking for. Or, more specifically, high but unrecognized value at low cost. Scooping up these under-appreciated players requires them to stay under-appreciated and the rest of the league not to understand how Billy is picking them.

Naturally, "old baseball" doesn't like this by-the-numbers approach and for the first half of the new season Billy is pilloried for his picks. But as he is able to get hold of the line up and force coach Art Howe (Philip Seymour Hoffman) to play the team his way, they start racking up the wins.

This movie takes place during the 2002 season — so baseball fans will know how things turned out. SPOILER ALERT for non-fans: this isn't a movie that ends up with a team at the World Series. Or, at least, the movie's attempt at validation for Billy Beane isn't with *his* team's place in the World Series. This makes for an odd movie — it paints him as right but not completely successful. And

that makes it a little tougher to pin down the character — is he a visionary or a dreamer? Are we supposed to see him as a hero in the end? I actually kind of like that you can't definitively say yes or no. He is like most people who work on a project — not completely a failure, not a complete success. Narratively speaking, it makes the movie's ending feel abrupt. But taken as a true story of a person's life, it makes sense.

Though the ending might feel like a sudden "and we're done," the movie leading up to it feels crackling with energy. I don't want to over-credit Aaron Sorkin, who has a screenplay credit here, but the movie has that Sorkin feel in the way it explains its specific universe and the ways its characters are following the rules and breaking them. He has an ability to make you feel fascinated by the minutia of, say, website-building or government policy, even if those aren't things you might have ever cared about before. The movie has that delight-in-the-details side of Sorkin without quite pulling off his sparkling dialogue (it also doesn't have his heavy hand with human relationships or his pontificating, so perhaps this is a fair trade-off).

Likewise, the movie is filled with very good performances even if I wouldn't consider any of them great performances. The players get just enough personality to make them real people. Jonah Hill makes his character neither some kind of asocial wunderkind nor some besotted fan-boy — he's a guy with a theory and he sticks to his guns but he also loves the game and is still learning the politics. Hoffman's skeptical coach is a small role but he makes it work without making the guy a spittle-spewing villain or a dish rag. He is able to sum up his character's motivation when he explains that he's playing the team in a way he'll be able to explain at future job interviews.

Pitt is the one getting most of the attention here, however. I can see how it could be his Oscar-nominated part — not because it's that good but because it's that restrained and, frankly, serious enough to warrant it if giving him a nomination is what voters are determined to do. He doesn't show some new side of himself as an actor or some new ability, but he

also doesn't let the character get bigger than the movie, which itself is enough of an accomplishment.

Probably the best thing that I can say about *Moneyball* is that you don't have to have ever heard the term before or even to have watched, with any regularity, baseball to enjoy the story this movie tells and the characters that populate it. **B**

Rated PG-13 for some strong language. Directed by Bennett Miller and with a screenplay by Steven Zaillian and Aaron Sorkin and story by Steve Chervin (from the book by Michael Lewis), Moneyball is two hours and six minutes long and is distributed by Sony Pictures.

Killer Elite (R) Jason Statham and Clive Owen compete to see who is more of a craggy tough guy in *Killer Elite*, an entertaining spy-vs.-spy movie.

Danny (Statham) makes his living going to dusty corners of the world with Hunter (Robert De Niro) and a small crew of other guys and killing people who stand in the way of someone trying to make money or seize power. After one particularly upsetting job in Mexico, Danny decides he's out.

Of course, after only a mere year of being "out," he is pulled back in when he receives word that Hunter has been kidnapped. The kidnapping, it seems, is to ensure someone will provide diligent work on a very difficult job — finding and killing three specific members of the S.A.S., the British special forces unit that got involved in a tribal war in the Middle East. Sheik Amr (Rodney Afit) was on the losing side of that conflict — three of his sons were killed and he left the area rather than risk the life of his fourth son, Bakhait (Firass Dirani). Before he dies, Amr wants to get revenge on the men (but in a way that Bakhait will never be blamed for) so he can regain his position and his son can return to his homeland. (Bakhait, on the other hand, is a natty dresser and seems to enjoy the ladies. He does not appear thrilled with the prospect of returning to some desert homeland.)

Thus Danny and his team must

find the men responsible for the killings, videotape them confessing to their crimes and then kill them in a way that will look like an accident. But that may be the easy part of the job — after all, these are men trained by the government to spot covert surveillance, fight off enemies and never talk under torture. And this isn't some Third World country Danny will be operating in — it's the United Kingdom.

And, while the men he's seeking are retired, they aren't letting their skills go to seed. They all seem tangentially connected to the Feather Men, a group of former special forces soldiers who haven't completely let go of the spy life. Spike (Clive Owen) is one of their number and he quickly catches on to the fact that the deaths of first one and then another former S.A.S. man aren't accidents. Soon, Spike is hunting Danny even as Danny is hunting Spike's fellow veterans. And, if the job's not done right, the Sheik may soon be hunting all of them, after first killing Hunter.

This movie has a nice bit of fun with its jaded subject matter — title cards kick off the realpolitik tone when they say that the world is in chaos, an economic slump is on its way to getting worse due to an oil crisis and revolutions, assassinations and covert operations are the order of the day. Then: "It's 1980." The names might be different but many of the players and the motives sound familiar: a covert Middle East operation by a Western government, a rich sheik wanting revenge, a gadabout son wanting none of his father's politics, oil. As we get deeper into the plot and a reluctant Danny finds himself digging further into the Feather Men, other shadowy figures appear, including the agent who set up Hunter's original job and assorted government-type men. The movie's message is that they're all dirty — from the mercenaries to the government agents, none of them are on the side of the angels.

But since we want to like Statham's character, the movie does show us his tender side. During that one year "out," he returned to Australia and started working on a farm where he renewed a friendship with neighbor Anne (Yvonne Strahovskí, best known as Agent Walker on

Reviewlets: Snack-sized movie reviews

* Indicates a movie worth seeking out. Previously reviewed movies have grades. For full reviews, go to www.hippopress.com.

* *Contagion* (PG-13)
Matt Damon, Gwyneth Paltrow.

Bring a flu mask! An illness turns deadly and spreads across the Earth. **B+**

Dream House (PG-13)
Daniel Craig, Rachel Weisz.
A family moves in to a home only to find that it has a spooky

history. (Just because the trailers give away the whole dang story doesn't mean I have to). Opens wide on Friday, Sept. 30.

50/50 (R)
Joseph Gordon-Leavitt, Seth Rogen.

A young man is diagnosed with cancer (and given a 50/50 prognosis) and tries to cope with the help of his best friend. Opens wide on Friday, Sept. 30.

**The Help* (PG-13)
Viola Davis, Emma Stone.
The novel about Jackson, Mississippi, in the 1960s — the white ladies who make up "society" and the black ladies who work for them — comes to the big screen. **B**

What's Your Number (R)
Anna Faris, Chris Evans.
A girl runs through her past boyfriends to see if she missed a prince. Opens wide on Friday, Sept. 30.

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Chuck). Oh, the love of a good woman could change him if only he didn't have to kill all these people first to save his friend.

Perhaps *Killer Elite* was shooting for something more substantial, something in the *Charlie Wilson's War* neighborhood of movies about government schemes and unsavory geopolitics. If that's the case, it needed a better name, for starters. But as B-movie action comfort food, *Killer Elite* is just dandy. It offers highly watchable characters in a nicely twisty story. And we get to see Owen and Statham fight each other at least two times, both of which are big fun.

I don't know that anybody needs to rush out of their way for this one, but when it turns up on Netflix or the "free movies" section of On Demand on some lazy, snowy January Saturday, you could do a lot worse. **C+**

Rated R for strong violence, language and some sexuality/nudity. Directed by Gary McKendry with a screenplay by Matt Sherring (from a non-fiction book by Ranulph Fiennes), Killer Elite is an hour and 45 minutes long and is distributed by Open Road Films.

Abduction (PG-13)

Taylor Lautner peels off his shirt and saddles up for some non-wolf-related adventure in *Abduction*, a teen spy-kid movie.

Nathan Harper (Lautner) is just your average, not particularly forward-thinking teenager. When we first meet him, he's riding his friend's truck on the way to a party — not "riding in," he's sitting on the hood, leaning against the windshield as the truck curves around mountain roads. Then, at the party, he beer-pongs until he passes out and awakes the next morning shirtless (but of course) in the front yard of the girl whose party it was.

It's in this state that his father Kevin (Jason Isaacs) arrives to pick him up. (At least Nathan stuck around to help the girl clean up a little.) Kevin decides to teach young Nathan a lesson by grounding him, sure, but also by making him box in the back yard while still hungover. It seems that boxing and wrestling and assorted self-defense-type exercises are a big part of father-son bonding. Perhaps this is one method of dealing with Nathan's rage issues. The other is his therapy with Dr. Bennett (Sigourney Weaver). He is often disturbed by one particular nightmare in which he is watching a woman be attacked. Oddly, Dr. Bennett encourages him to let that go, not to find out more about this maybe-memory.

Even odder, when Nathan and girl-next-door crush Karen (Lily Collins) start working on some kind of school project together involving missing persons, Nathan finds a picture of a kid who looks very similar to a younger version of himself. Even curiously, the projected-aging image produces a nearly perfect rendering of himself.

Thankfully, all of these strange circumstances cut short whatever weak moves Nathan may have been considering with Karen. After she leaves, he digs around, finding very few baby pictures but finding a shirt identical to the shirt worn by the "missing" boy. Eventually, he asks his heretofore mother Mara (Maria Bello) if it's true that she's not his real mom. Unfortunately, fake-mom and Karen aren't the only people he discussed the predicament with. He instant messaged with the missing person site but on the other line

was not some helpful law enforcement office but some shifty-looking toady who answered to some shifty-looking Cold-War-accented guy, who we eventually learn is named Kozlow (Michael Nyqvist), who rounds up his men and prepares to come for Nathan.

Thus, after Nathan confronts Mara but before she and Kevin have time to explain the situation to him, the first two of many suit-wearing, gun-toting men show up at Nathan's family home and violence ensues.

Mostly kicking and punching with a little shooting and exploding.

Nathan and — because the audience is paying good money to see someone make out with Lautner — Karen are soon on the run not only from Kozlow and his men but also from the CIA and Agent Burton (Alfred Molina), who may or may not be trying to help Nathan, who can say?

Lautner mainly sticks to three different facial/bodily expressions: (1) fist clenched (mostly in anger), (2) eyes narrowed, brow forward (anger, confusion, mistrust, possibly hunger) and (3) everything from 2 plus a soft voice (extreme anger, preparing to make out). Add in some kicking and punching, some close-ups, some abrupt and shoehorned-in romantic scenes and the occasional eyes welling with tears (of anger, joy, possibly hunger) and you have his whole performance. Actually, you have the whole movie. In fact, I'm pretty sure the point of this movie boils down to about four scenes: (1) he wakes up shirtless on the lawn and remains shirtless for minutes, (2) he does a goofy bit of nervous clean-up when Karen comes to his house, (3) he makes out (close-up on the lips) with the moderately useless Karen character, (4) he beats the living poo out of a henchman on a train.

If The CW were going to make a TV show about spies, this is more or less what it'd feel like — only there would be more hot girls for potential future hook-ups with Nathan and there's maybe a 60-percent chance it would be better acted and better written. Or, at least, more cleverly written, with more snarky pop culture references, which, yes, can be boring but at least it's something. Even if it is only artificially shooting a spark into the proceedings, the showiest, slangiest script is better than the damp Wonder bread we're presented with here. As it is, most of the dialogue here is just redundant — the gun they are shooting or the pout they are pouting really says it all. Since being a means of wringing dollars from Team Jacob girls seems to be the sole point of this movie, the story feels like someone came up with the barest of bare bones and then stopped there: a kid on the run with a girl. The movie doesn't even go the extra mile to have any fun with its characters and their predicament. There's a scene about half-way through (and it also appears in the trailers) where Nathan finds himself holding the keys to a very nice sports car. The smile he and Karen share over the thought of driving this — even though killers are in hot pursuit and they really have nowhere to go — hints at the "superhero figures out his powers"-type direction the movie could have taken but didn't. **C-**

Rated PG-13 for sequences of intense violence and action, brief language, some sexual content and teen partying. Directed by John Singleton and written by Shawn Christensen, Abduction is an hour and 46 minutes long and is distributed by Lionsgate.

Movies outside the cineplex

RED RIVER THEATRES

11 S. Main St., Concord, 224-4600, www.redrivertheatres.org

- *The Guard* (R, 2011) Thurs., Sept. 29, at 2:05 p.m.; Fri., Sept. 30, through Sun., Oct. 2, at 3:25 & 5:30 p.m.; Mon., Oct. 3, through Wed., Oct. 5, at 2:05 & 5:30 p.m.
- *The Whistleblower* (R, 2011) Thurs., Sept. 29, at 2, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Fri., Sept. 30, at 1 p.m.; Sat., Oct. 1, and Sun., Oct. 2, at 1 & 7:45 p.m.; Mon., Oct. 3, through Wed., Oct. 5, at 7:45 p.m.; Thurs., Oct. 6, at 2:05 p.m.
- *Senna* (PG-13) Fri., Sept. 30, at 1:15, 3:25, 5:35 & 7:30 p.m.; Sat., Oct. 1, at 1:15, 3:30, 5:45 & 8:10 p.m.; Sun., Oct. 2, at 1:15, 3:30 & 8:10 p.m.; Mon., Oct. 3, through Thurs., Oct. 6, at 2, 5:30 & 7:45 p.m.
- *Dead Alive* (1992) Fri., Sept. 30, at 9:30 p.m.

WILTON TOWN HALL

Main Street in Wilton, wiltontownhalltheatre.com

- *The Debt* (R, 2011) Thurs., Sept. 29, through Thurs., Oct. 6, at 7:30 p.m. Plus, Sun., Oct. 2, at 2 & 4:30 p.m.
- *The Help* (PG-13, 2011) Thurs., Sept. 29, through Thurs., Oct. 6, at 7:30 p.m. Plus, Sun., Oct. 2, at 2 p.m.
- *Backstreet* (1961) Sat., Oct. 1, at 4:30 p.m.
- *The Lodger* (1927) Sun., Oct. 2, at 4:30 p.m.; silent film with live music accompaniment.

MILFORD DRIVE-IN

Route 101A in Milford, 673-4090, www.milforddrivein.com

- Fri., Sept. 30, & Sat., Oct. 1
- **Screen 1:** *Dolphin Tale* (PG, 2011); *Contagion* (PG-13, 2011)
- **Screen 2:** *Killer Elite* (R, 2011); *Our Idiot Brother* (R, 2011)

THE JAM FACTORY

1211 Elm St., Manchester, www.thejamfactorynh.com

- **Local indie films** the last Saturday of each month from 8 to 11 p.m. Event is 21+; suggested donation of \$5.

MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY

405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550, www.manchester.lib.nh.us

- *Doctor Dolittle* (G, 1976) Wed., Sept. 28, at 1 p.m.
- *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* (PG-13, 2000) Wed., Oct. 5, at 1 p.m.
- *Country Strong* (PG-13, 2010) Tues., Oct. 11, at 6 p.m. and Wed., Oct. 12, at 1 p.m.

WEST BRANCH COMMUNITY LIBRARY

76 N. Main St., Manchester, 624-6560, www.manchester.lib.nh.us

- *Dumbo* (G, 1941) Fri., Sept. 30, at 3 p.m.

CONCORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

45 Green St., Concord, 230-3682, www.concordpubliclibrary.net

- *The Natural* (PG, 1984) on Thurs., Sept. 29, at 6:30 p.m.

NHTI

Sweeney Auditorium, 31 College Drive, Concord, 271-7185, nhti.edu

- **Manhattan Short Film Festival** on Fri., Sept. 30, at 7 p.m. and Sat., Oct. 1, at 2 & 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$9.

NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY

NPL Theater, 2 Court St., Nashua,

In the spotlight



Manhattan Short Film Festival

See 10 movies in about two hours at the Manhattan Short Film Festival, the annual celebration/competition of short films.

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the film and then vote for your favorite. Votes from all over the world will be collected and a winner will be announced at manhattanshort.com on Sunday, Oct. 2.

This year's lineup of 10 movies is:

- *Incident by a Bank* (from Sweden, directed by Ruben Ostlund, 9:30 minutes)
- *DIK* (from Australia, directed by Christopher Stollery, 10 minutes)
- *MAK* (from Switzerland, directed by Geraldine Zoso, 18 minutes)
- *I Love Luci* (from Scotland, directed by Colin Kennedy, 11 minutes)
- *The Legend of Beaver Dam* (from Canada, directed by Jerome Sable and Eli Batalion, 12 minutes)
- *sexting* (from the U.S., directed by Neil LaBute, 8 minutes)
- *The Forest* (from Hungary, directed by Karpati Gyorgy Mor, 12 minutes)
- *A Doctor's Job* (from Peru, directed by Julio Ramos, 10:30 minutes)
- *David and Goliath* (from the U.S., directed by George Zaverdas, 12 minutes)
- *Martyr Friday* (from Egypt, directed by Abu Bakr Shawky, 10 minutes)

These movies may be short but they cover diverse subjects and tell stories in a variety of styles. *DIK* could be straight from a (R-rated, late night, possibly on cable) single-camera comedy — it tells the story of a child whose drawing upends his parents' relationship. *David and Goliath* is a story set during the Holocaust and stars Billy Burke (well-known recently for his role as Bella's dad in the *Twilight* movies). *Martyr Friday* includes news footage from the recent popular uprising in Egypt. *The Legend of Beaver Dam* features a campfire song gone wrong. *Incident by the Bank* feels almost like found footage — and according to the director is based on his real-life encounter with a bank robbery. And, yes, that is *that* Neil LaBute (*In the Company of Men*) directing *sexting*.

See the films for yourself on Friday, Sept. 30, at 7 p.m. or Saturday, Oct. 1, at 2 or 7 p.m. at NHTI at the Sweeney Auditorium in Concord. Tickets cost \$9. See www.nhti.edu/directions.html for directions. — Amy Diaz

589-4600, www.nashualibrary.org.

Call 589-4646 for the library's film line, a schedule of upcoming movies. Films subject to change. Seating is limited. Food and drink are not permitted in the theater.

- *Everything Must Go* (R, 2011) Tues., Oct. 4, at 7 p.m.
- *Win Win* (R, 2011) Tues., Oct. 11, at 7 p.m.

THE MUSIC HALL

28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, www.themusicall.org. Some of these films are being screened at Music Hall Loft, at 131 Congress St.

- *I Am* (NR, 2011) Wed., Sept. 28, through Fri., Sept. 30, at 7 p.m.
- *Buck* (PG, 2011) Sat., Oct. 1, and Sun., Oct. 2, at 7 p.m.; Tues., Oct. 4, and Wed., Oct. 5, at 7 p.m.; Fri., Oct. 7, at 7 p.m.
- **New Hampshire Film Festival** featuring independent cinema, Thurs., Oct. 13, through Sun., Oct. 16.

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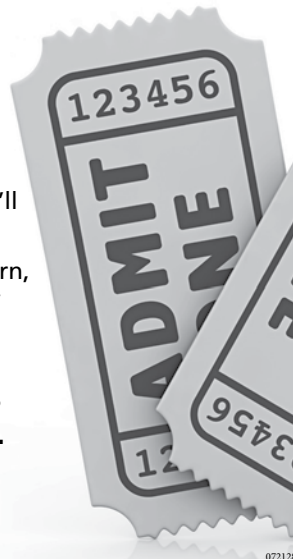
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Nite Roundup

Local music & nightlife news

By Michael Witthaus
music@hippopress.com

• **Scrubs-apella:** Known to fans of *Scrubs* simply as Ted's Band, the Blanks combine old TV theme songs, commercials — Chili's "baby back ribs" and the two-word Mennen jingle are standouts — and oddball covers of The Who, Blue Oyster Cult and Outkast. Everything is done without instrumental support, unless you count the talking toy figures they sometime enlist. See The Blanks on Friday, Sept. 30, at 7 p.m. at Stockbridge Theatre at Pinkerton Academy, 5 Pinkerton St. in Derry. Ticket prices range from \$10 to \$25 at www.stockbridgetheatre.com.

• **Words & rhythm:** Headlining this week's Slam Free or Die night, The Duende Project is the duo of Pushcart prize-winning poet Tony Brown and bassist/guitarist Steven Lanning-Cafaro. The pair released a beat jazz inspired album earlier this year, and Brown frequently blogs new poems on his Dark Matter webpage at www.radioactiveart.wordpress.com. Attend Slam Free or Die on Thursday, Sept. 29, at Milly's Tavern, 500 Commercial St. in Manchester. Admission is \$3; see www.facebook.com/slamfreeordie.

• **Doggin' it:** The stage will be crowded when Boston-based blues septet the Love Dogs take over in Manchester at Strange Brew. With four horn players (including one doubling on guitar), keyboards, a hot rhythm section and a lead singer mixing styles from R&B, jump blues and New Orleans Creole soul, this is a big band, and a seasoned one at that. See The Love Dogs on Friday, Sept. 30, at 9 p.m. at Strange Brew Tavern, 88 Market St. in Manchester. There's more at www.the-lovedogs.com.

• **New season:** Simple Gifts Coffee House returns for another season of folk music with singer/songwriter Cosy Sheridan with TR Ritchie backing her on bass. Sheridan has a brilliant knack for finding the thread between myth and modern — "from Persephone to Botox" is how one writer described it. The Nashua show is a release party for her new CD, *The Horse King*. See Cosy Sheridan with TR Ritchie on Saturday, Oct. 1, at 7:30 p.m. at Simple Gifts Coffee House, 58 Lowell St. (UU Church) in Nashua. Tickets are \$10-\$18 at www.uunashua.org.

• **Brothers in arms:** Destroy Babylon wears a social heart on its sleeve and name. The Boston-based band has at its core Marc and John Beaudette, with guitarist Rob Carmichael adding pulsing riffs and vocals. Complemented by horns and keys, they provide a solid and danceable mix of reggae, rhythm and dub, and they've backed some top bands over their 10 years like Steel Pulse, The Wailers, and English Beat. See Destroy Babylon on Saturday, Sept. 30, at 9 p.m. at The Shaskeen, 909 Elm St. in Manchester. More information at www.destroybabylon.com.

A comic state of mind

Super Secret Project and Nick Lavallee at Boynton's

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

The three members of Super Secret Project like to brag that everybody's mother watched their viral video hit "Granite State of Mind" on YouTube. But the comedy troupe's material ranges beyond their New Hampshire-sized parody of Jay-Z's hit, or the Miley Cyrus send-up "Middle Class in the U.S.A." There are racier bits like "Law & Order: Sexual Intent" and "Man's Best Friend with Benefits" — which can be problematic when they're booking shows.

"We have a rule now," says the group's front man, Christian Wisecarver. "If the venue has a bouncy house, we won't play — or we'll only do one or two songs."

Wisecarver sat at a table with SSP mate Billy Donohoe and Manchester comic Nick Lavallee, nibbling onion rings, sipping beer and talking about their upcoming show at Boynton's Taproom. It will be the final SSP live show of the year, necessitated by the imminent arrival of Wisecarver's third child, and Lavallee is recording his opening set for an album, so everyone's excited.

"I'm hoping that my fans and theirs will intermingle, have unprotected sex and produce a Nick Lavallee/Super Secret Project love child," says a chuckling Lavallee.

"We've got the room for the whole night, so everyone should hang out," echoes Wisecarver. "It will be a party."

SSP expects to debut some new material at the show, a new song celebrating Boston sports that Wisecarver hopes will make them "famous in five and a half states instead of just one."

"The Bruins did their part; now it's time for us to do ours," Donohoe says.

After their video blew up on the Internet last year — the result of a slow news day, Wisecarver says self-deprecatingly — SSP quickly put together a live show to capitalize on the sudden success.

"We don't do standup; it's more of a concert type thing," Wisecarver says. "We also use PowerPoint and do an acoustic set of music too."

"Maybe a poem," says Donohoe.

"Boynton's is the perfect place because it's a comedy club but it also has the technical specs — screen, projector, good sound system," Wisecarver adds. "At bars, people will nod their heads to the music but not pick up on the jokes." He recently finished Steve Martin's biography, *Born Standing Up*. "Martin says that distraction is the enemy of comedy — if anything can distract an



Christian Wisecarver, Nick Lavallee and Billy Donohoe.. Michael Witthaus photo.

audience member it will get in the way of what you're doing. There are a lot of subtle jokes in our lyrics."

Lavallee took an opposite route from SSP, honing his standup routine for several years before he began making clips and submitting them to Funny or Die and other web comedy sites.

He approached Wisecarver with the idea of a co-bill.

"I admired what these guys did," Lavallee says. "So I asked, 'Could I tell my ... jokes before you do your show?' I know the world these guys are in. We have the same audience but we're doing different things. They were doing online stuff and turned it into a live show, while I took standup and made videos from it."

"I Love You Sally Struthers" is one of Lavallee's funniest. In it, the comic ogles, courts and finally tongue-wrestles with the actress. "The guy is kissing Sally Struthers on the mouth," says Wisecarver in amazement. "That's an epic win."

Much of Lavallee's material is R-rated, but when asked if it's family-appropriate, he recalls his own childhood. "My mom and dad taped *Saturday Night Live* for us to watch on Sunday morning ... I used to think that was so cool, a family gathering around the TV to watch a VHS cassette of *SNL*."

His father introduced him to George Carlin while he was still in grade school.

"It's funny for me to say it's not family-friendly comedy, because I'm influenced by my family, by things like my mother buying me Adam Sandler's record when I was 14," he says. "It's family-friendly to my family, just not to any others."

Sure enough, some of his best routines revolve around his family life.

"Any self-respecting French-Canadian Manchester family knows you only need three drawers in the kitchen," he told a crowd recently. "One for silverware, one for car keys, flashlight and other junk, and one for takeout menus."

Lavallee's success on iTunes has caused some to wonder if his next stop might be New York City.

"No, I'm going to move to the Internet," he says, citing SSP as inspiration.

To do otherwise is "simply attaching yourself to a dying breed," he wrote in an early summer blog post. "I can't afford a time machine to bring me back to 1988. Besides, I look terrible in a blazer and blue jeans while lamenting about the taste of airline food."

While their Internet impact has been significant, the members of SSP — Wisecarver, Donohoe and Darby DeChristopher — haven't become starstruck.

"Jay-Z has seen 'Granite State of Mind,' but he never said anything about it," Wisecarver observes with a dismissive wave of his hand. "What would I need that for?"

"Well. Beyoncé is pregnant, and your wife's expecting," counters Donohoe.

"Oh, yeah," Wisecarver replies.

Super Secret Project with comic Nick Lavallee

Where: Boynton's Taproom, Manchester
When: Friday, Sept. 30, at 8 p.m.
Tickets: \$10 at www.boyntonstaproom.com

Local jazz guitarist releases album

Mike Stockbridge brings all-NH band to Laconia

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

In the right hands, jazz easily moves out of the shadows and into the spotlight. Think Miles Davis on the trumpet, Dave

Brubeck playing piano or George Benson smoothly working the fret board of his Ibanez guitar. The effect is elegant yet restrained and the musicality demands attention. That's the feeling Mike Stockbridge strives for and achieves on his

latest CD, *Ama* — a trio of top-notch players at the peak of their form.

There's clearly chemistry between the players, and the result is a lean recording that allows each to shine, particularly Stockbridge's elemental guitar. He con

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NITE

sidered adding piano and horn for *Ama*, but ultimately entered the studio with drummer Shawn Boissonneault and bass player Duane Edwards, two musicians he'd gigged with for several years.

They were comfortable together, a good way to start a recording project.

"The sound is really developed, so I though why don't we just do the CD that way," Stockbridge says. "I wasn't really trying to feature myself more by having less instruments, it was just that it made sense. Why have a five-piece band on CD when I'm out playing with a three-piece exclusively?"

To preserve the live feeling, Stockbridge took a different approach from the one used on his 2009 self-titled debut.

"For the first CD, everybody did their part in a different room and we did multiple takes," he says. "This time I made sure we were all prepared, and we all played in the same room. We isolated different things, like drums, but we could still see Shawn, [just] not as loud as he would have been. We recorded it somewhat live that way."

Familiarity and preparation made for a brisk recording process.

"Most of the CD is either the first or second take," Stockbridge says. "There is no overdubbing, either — it was all done right then and there."

The loose, spontaneous mood shines through as the three stretch out on "Proof," where Stockbridge combines a delicate touch with moments of frenetic abandon. Boissonneault's drum riffing makes it seem like the two are trading leads; the final third includes a tasteful solo that concludes with Edwards' disciplined rhythm leading back to the track's dominant melody.

"We knew the material really well," Stockbridge says, "but we tried to capture it like we were playing live ... more of a visceral take on it."

The record is dedicated to Stockbridge's mother Grace; "Ama" is the Basque word for mother. Before settling down and raising a family, she began to pursue a career as an artist.

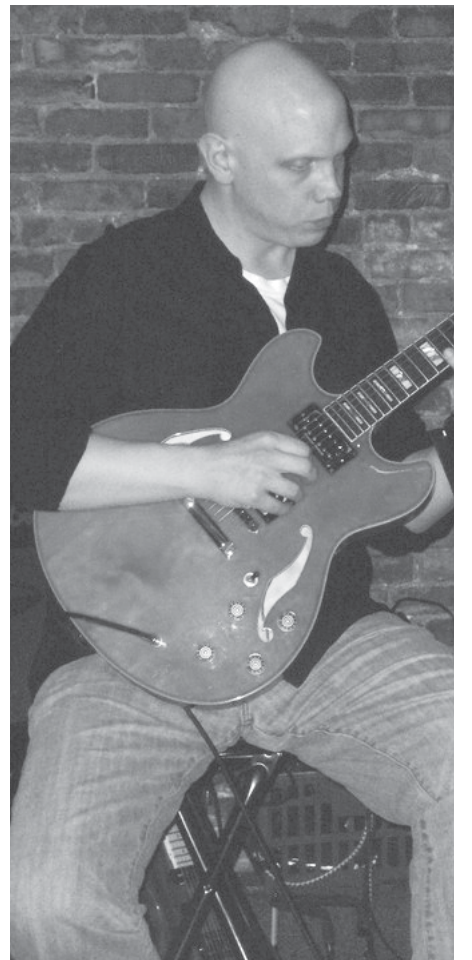
"She had a full scholarship to a school in Paris," he says. "She never really mentioned the details, but did talk about it a few times. She decided to start a family instead."

When Stockbridge was a boy, his mother taught at a local art studio before becoming a paralegal. Sadly, she passed away before the album was finished. One of the most beautiful tunes on *Ama* was written in her honor, the elegiac "Grace."

Stockbridge plans to reflect the Granite State for his upcoming show at the recently opened jazz performance space at Putnam's Freight Room in Laconia on Sept. 29.

"Jonathan Lorentz has done great things with this new venue," he says. "A lot of times I hire this rhythm section from Maine because I'm comfortable with them. But I chose all local jazz musicians for this gig."

His band includes drummer Jared Steer, a frequent partner at Los Herma-



Mike Stockbridge. Courtesy photo.

nos Mexican restaurant. Also on board are Manchester native Mike Effenberger (Tan Vampires) on piano, and bassist Mike Rossi (like Steer, a member of the Concord-based Blue Ribbon All-Star Band).

"It's a New Hampshire jazz center, so let's get a bunch of New Hampshire guys to do it," Stockbridge says.

Stockbridge began working on *Ama* in early 2010, and he's ready for the next challenge.

"It's just moving forward and trying different things, working with new people and finding opportunities where I can do that," he says. Adding a piano also made sense. "I've been wanting to work with Mike Effenberger for a long time."

Born in Conway and raised in Wolfeboro, Stockbridge lived in Maine for several years before returning to Tamworth, where he currently lives. He splits appearances across the border; there are upcoming shows at Portland's Ginkgo Blue bar and the Press Room in Portsmouth, as well a recurring gig in Concord at Los Hermanos. He also teaches guitar.

Stockbridge is hopeful the Laco- nia showcase will have a halo effect on his home state: "It's nice to be in New Hampshire," he says. "I've lived in Maine quite a bit, so another reason for a gig here is to get a little more notoriety in this area."

Mike Stockbridge

When: Thursday, Sept. 29, at 8 p.m.

Where: New Hampshire Jazz Center at Pitman's Freight Room, 94 New Salem St. in Laconia

Tickets: \$10 BYOB

More: www.mikestockbridge.com

NITE

From Paris stories to big medley

No two songs alike as Buckdancer's Choice stretches

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

Dan Gioffre was ready to take a break from music until he spotted an ad placed in the Hippo by singer Dave Endris in the mid-2000s. Gioffre had already been playing guitar for more than a decade and had come to a record deal with his former band, The Getaway, in 1999 — a deal that fizzled out when band was hit with lineup changes and its members found themselves unable to agree on a musical direction.

Endris had already partnered up and was seeking a guitar player to jam with. The trio hit it off right away, both musically and personally, Gioffre said. The group then added a bassist to the mix.

"I said I was just going to be the guitar player and not write music or worry about musical direction — I would just play guitar and go home ... of course six months in I started asserting musical identity," Gioffre said. "I'm not a good side man."

The name Buckdancer's Choice was pulled from a Grateful Dead song lyric, which referred to a traditional old country song, Gioffre said noting that "buckdancer" is also a term used in the rodeo world.

Buckdancer's Choice is rooted in the classic rock of the late 1960s and early 1970s but the band has worked country, country rock, bluegrass, psychedelic and progressive rock stylings into their songs, Gioffre said.

The band played live shows frequently from 2005 until 2007, when they released the album *Crashing the Cotillion*. Shortly after the release of their debut album, Endris moved to New York for graduate school, which sparked the second stage in the group's existence as a band, Gioffre said. It transitioned from a live band that also recorded to a recording band that occasionally played live.

"I'm more comfortable with that," Gioffre said, adding that he has always disliked playing live on some level. "I'm much happier in the studio doing production, thinking about getting great guitar tone and being creative in that way."

"I've always been more interested in the technical artistic aspects rather than the jumping around and wearing cool clothes," he said.

Edris was still living in New York when the band's second album, *Clouds Breaking Over Montmartre*, was being written and recorded.

"The thing about Dave that's great is that he is such a prolific writer," Gioffre said. "He would say 'I've got some songs, which ones do you like?' and ... have 30 songs with him."

Gioffre, 33, said the band wanted not to let any two songs sound alike.

"If you listen to an old Zeppelin album, none of the songs sound the same," he said. "That is something that as a young music nerd I appreciated."

While putting together *Clouds Breaking*, Edris would teach the tunes to Gioffre, who would then rehearse the songs with the oth-



Buckdancer's Choice. Courtesy photo.

er two band members in Nashua.

"I felt that my role was the musical director, almost," Gioffre said. "Every couple of months or so Dave would come up and offer his input."

"On [*Clouds Breaking Over Montmartre*] we wanted to be more expansive," he said. "Our goal going into it was to stretch the parameters of our sound ... we took things we were already doing and made it more so."

Edris would also give his feedback on the mp3s of the band's progress that Gioffre would regularly e-mail him.

"You could never make a record like that 10 years ago, and definitely not 20 years ago," Gioffre said. "Working remotely and sending files back and forth together and using technology to enhance our creativity is something that is relatively new."

"It was exciting for us to be able to do this," he said.

Gioffre described the band's second record, named for an area in Paris, as having a loose concept running throughout it; he likened the album to playing like an extended suite as all the songs run into each other. The 10-song record focuses on an imaginary Paris-based musician who has found himself in a funk and struggles to write music. The album features snippets of fake radio broadcasts and conversations between the musician and his girlfriend.

"All of those lyrical elements are woven through the actual songs on the record and form a cohesive whole," Gioffre said. "Obviously that is something we couldn't do live."

When writing was complete for *Clouds Breaking Over Montmartre*, Edris and Gioffre got started writing songs for a third record. Edris has since moved back to Nashua, allowing for a more traditional writing process.

"There are some lyrical and arrangement holes to fill but it's all written, essentially," said Gioffre, who is now working on writing a score for the album. The pair will create the third Buckdancer's Choice album without their bassist and drummer as both have since moved. Gioffre said he and Edris will not seek out new permanent band members but will instead invite musician friends for the recording sessions. "It's just more complicated to create a new band," he said.

The third album, tentatively slated for

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release in 2013, will be a step forward for the group, Gioffre said. The album will be recorded in the style of the B side of The Beatles' *Abbey Road* — "little songs pieced together into a sidelong suite," he said. "All of these fragments of song into a big medley."

The big medley, Gioffre said, turned into an epic composition of melodic ideas, flows and tempos and will serve as the centerpiece of the record. Also featured on the album will be a "hot-shot country tune" and a ballad. "I think it's going to be an interesting progression and am really excited to start doing the demos," Gioffre said.

Gioffre said while he and Edris have not ruled out taking the stage again next summer, they have made their third record their priority.

"I think our second album is 10 times as good as our first and the goal is making the next one 10 times as good as the one that came before," he said.

And while most bands have their sights set on signing a record deal and making it big, Gioffre has a more humble approach to the music business: "I'm not interested in having an image, pouting on an album cover, I don't care about that," he said. "I want to make an album that I like and if other people can get something out of it, that's great."

"I think our songs are good and worth sharing with the world ... I hope people look at what we done, see the cool things we see in it," Gioffre said.

Hear Buckdancer's Choice on iTunes, Amazon and CDBaby.

Nightlife Listings Music, comedy & parties

• **BEER FOR BOOBS**, a fund-raising event for the Avon Breast Cancer Walk, will be held at the Shaskeen, 909 Elm St., Manchester, on Thursday, Sept. 29, from 7 to 11 p.m. A Simple Complex will perform. Tickets cost \$20 at the door.

• **A FAREWELL TO THE MEMORIAL BRIDGE** will be held in Portsmouth on Saturday, Oct. 1, from 2 to 7:30 p.m. The celebration will feature activities, food, music and fireworks.

• **PAUL RISHELL & ANNIE RAINES** will perform a free blues concert at the Bedford Library, 3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, on Sunday, Oct. 2, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Visit bedford.lib.nh.us.

• **FIDDLE AND BANJO CONTEST** A fiddle contest will be held at Relaxation Grove Stage at the Deerfield Fair on Sat., Oct. 1, at 1 p.m.; a bango contest will be held on the stage on Sun., Oct. 2, at 1 p.m. Visit deerfieldfair.com.

• **MILFORD PUMPKIN FEST MUSIC** Local Circus will perform on the Oval Stage on Fri., Oct. 7, at 5:30 p.m., followed by PB & J Jazz and Folk Soul. The Ballou Brothers Band will perform on the Oval Stage on Sat., Oct. 8 and The Swamp Dawgs and The Slakas on Sun., Oct. 9. Destroy Babylon will play at the Elm Street Block Party on Sat., Oct. 8.

• **PAWTUCKAWAY MUSIC FESTIVAL** will be held at Pawtuckaway State Park in Nottingham on Sat., Oct. 8, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Christine Hayward, Dan Blakeslee, Gideon Brown, Audrey Ryan, Cuddle Magic, A Minor Revolution, Gramafoma and Fire Tower will perform. Tickets cost \$7 in advance and \$10 at the gate (\$4 for children under 12 at the gate). Visit www.pawtuckawaymusicfestival.com.

• **JAZZ AT UNH** the UNH jazz bands will hold a free concert at the Johnson Theatre of the Paul Creative Arts Center on the Durham campus on Tues., Oct. 11, at 8 p.m. Visit unh.edu/music.

• **MATTHEW WEST** will perform at Bethany Church, 500 Breakfast Hill Road, Greenland, 207-232-0966, on Thurs., Oct. 13, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 and \$40 and are available by calling the church.

• **HOW MEN THINK (OR DO THEY?)** will be performed at the Portsmouth Gas Light Company,

In the spotlight



Music in Milford

The sound of live local music will fill downtown Milford during the Pumpkin Festival on Friday, Oct. 7, through Sunday,

Oct. 9. On Friday, Oct. 7, at 5:30 p.m., Local Circus, a Portland, Maine-based band best known for its danceable swing, bluegrass and folk tunes, will perform at the Oval Stage and will be followed by PB & J Jazz and Folk Soul, an eight-piece ensemble specializing in New Orleans-style rhythms. Performing at the Oval Stage on Saturday, Oct. 8, will be the Stephanie Hurley Combo and The Ballou Brothers; The Swamp Dawgs and The Slakas will perform on Sunday, Oct. 9. The Elm Street Block Party on Saturday, Oct. 8, will feature a performance by Destroy Babylon and a beer tasting of locally produced craft beers. Visit milfordpumpkinfestival.org.

64 Market St., Portsmouth, on Sat., Oct. 15, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 (\$25 at the door) at 430-9122.

• **MARK SMEBY**, a Nashville recording artist, will perform at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 65 Sagamore St., Manchester, on Sun., Oct. 16, at 5 p.m. The show is free and open to the public. Visit glc-manchester.org.

Bowling

• **BOUTWELL'S BOWLING CENTER** 152 N. State St., Concord, 224-0941.

• **LAKESIDE LANES** 2171 Candia Road, Manchester, 627-7722, www.lakesidelanes.com.

• **LEDA LIGHTHOUSE** 340 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-4884, www.ledalanes.com.

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• **MERRIMACK TEN PIN CENTER** 698 DW Hwy., Merrimack, 429-0989, 8:30 a.m. to midnight.

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• **TONY'S LANES** 244 Elm St., Milford, 673-6673.

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• **CHESS CLUB** open to players of all levels, 7 to 9 p.m. Fridays at Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. Call 589-4600.

Free outdoor concerts

• **NASHUA MARKET CONCERTS** Curly Jones and The New Englanders will perform at the Main Street Bridge Farmers' Market on Oct. 2 and Oct. 16; Merrimack Bend on Oct. 9; Stephen Gibson on Oct. 9 and Oct. 23; and Steady Hands Music Studio on Oct. 23. All free shows will be held between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Scrabble

• **HOLLIS SOCIAL LIBRARY** 2 Monument Sq., Hollis, 465-7721, for adults every Monday, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at Hollis Social Library. Invite a favorite Scrabble partner to come with you, or meet new opponents. Bring a Scrabble board.

• **BEDFORD LIBRARY** Richmond Room, Bedford Public Library, 2 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, 472-2300, second Wednesday of the month, 7-9 p.m.

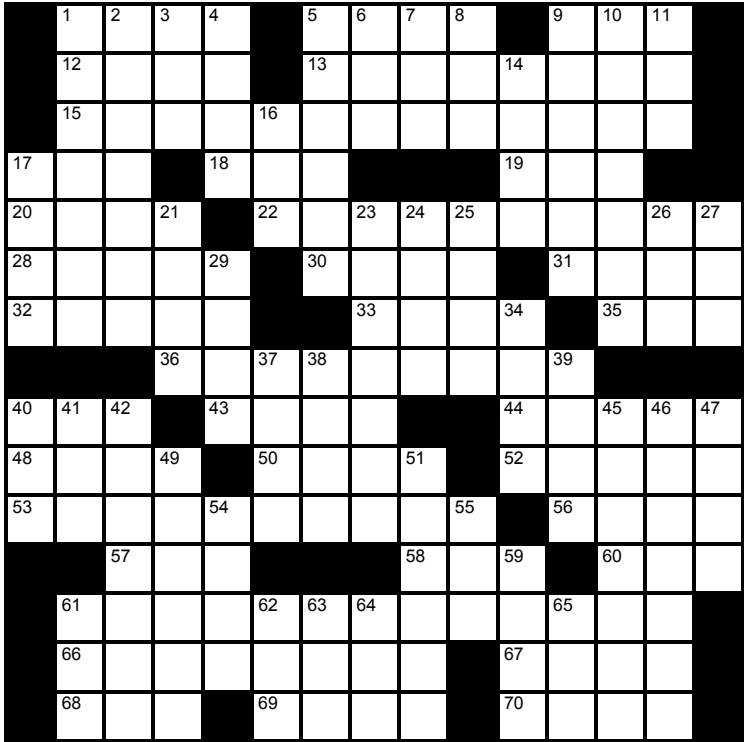
Singles events

• **BYOB SINGLES DANCE** every Friday, 8 p.m. to midnight at Daniels Hall, Route 4 in Nottingham. Casual dress, free buffet, and drink setups, smoking outside on patio. Entertainment by dancing DJs JoAnn and Carol. Cost is \$12, 942-8525, www.singlesdanceparties.com.

Diamonds on a ring of gold — RockandRollCrosswords.com by Todd Santos

- Across**

 - Rock star couple
 - ‘Electric Avenue’ Grant
 - Smashing Pumpkins guitarist James
 - ‘Kiss Me’ band Sixpence ___ The Richer
 - Velvet Underground ‘Here She ___’ (5,3)
 - U2 “All the promises we made, ___ to the grave” (4,3,6)
 - Thin Lizzy “I put ___ to paper but I was frightened”
 - Duran Duran ‘Hungry Like The Wolf’ album
 - Spoken word soul guy ___ Scott- Heron
 - Shakira ‘___ Fixation’
 - Neko Case ‘___ Lotta Nerve’ (6,3,1)
- REM ‘It’s The ___ The World A We Know It’ (3,2)
 - “Oh won’t you ___, just a little bit longer”
 - Admits with “up”, in later interview
 - Audience for crappy Canadian band?
 - “I’m going to slide ___” Whitesnake (2,2)
 - Ozzfest band Drain ___
 - ‘Closing Time’ rockers
 - Music is a form of it
 - Big Head ___ & The Monsters
 - Men At Work’s smash ‘83 album
 - The Who drummer Keith
 - Might fill your eye during sentimental song
 - Queen ‘A Night At The ___’
 - Wrote musical score for Shaft (5,5)
 - The Used ‘___ Your Own Throat’
 - Two-musician ensemble
 - Taps at sound of good band
 - Helpful connections
 - Weather Girls “___ Hallelujah!” (3,7,3)
 - ‘81 Kiss bomb ‘Music From ___’ (3,5)
 - Argent ‘God ___ Rock ‘N Roll To You’
 - “Come with me, my love to the ___ of love”
 - ‘Cruel To Be Kind’ Nick
 - Sublime song they planted?
- “Ain’t no way to hide your ___ eyes” Eagles
 - Second album by AC/DC
 - ‘Argus’ rockers Wishbone ___
 - Alanis Morissette ‘Head Over ___’
 - The Velvet Underground & ___
 - Audioslave song about eater of sweaters?
 - Orson ‘Bright ___’
 - Worn by balding rockers
 - ‘What Kind Of Fool ___’ Frank Sinatra (2,1)
 - ‘()’ band Sigur ___
 - ‘Something’s Always Wrong’ ___ Wet Sprocket (4,3)
 - Tha Alkaholiks appropriate song ‘___ Yourself’
 - Smiled at funny performer
 - What Daryl Hall has for breakfast?
 - Beck song that makes you vomit?
 - What you want old, terrible performer to do
 - Stone Temple Pilots 1st album
 - “Now you’re messing with a ___ of a bitch”
 - Country rockers ___ Over Easy
 - Every Rose Has ___ Thorn
 - ...”When ___ I want is you” U2
 - “I love you my baby, yes ___” J Geils (1,2)
 - Bobby Brown band ___ Edition
 - Beatles ‘Maggie ___’



- Down**
- “Burn baby burn, disco ___”
 - Would even cancel “rain or shine” show
 - Famous U2 producer Brian
 - ‘Excuse ___’ No Doubt (2,2)
 - Takes up entire 2nd side of Pink Floyd ‘Meddle’
 - John of X
 - ‘King Of Rock’ Run-___
 - Tom Petty ‘___ So Bad’
 - ‘Closer To Fine’ ___ Girls
 - Be’Laker ‘Held In ___’
 - Amaze at show
 - “Are you goin’ to Scarborough Fair? Parsley, ___, rosemary, and thyme.
 - Kind of jar in front of bar band
 - Beautiful rhyming lyrics, to some
 - Tour’s red ink amount
 - Leader of The Knights in Animal House (4,3)
 - English reggae singer Banton



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Boscawen Alan’s 133 N. Main St., 753-6631	Brookline The Loft at the Grange 12 Main St., 315-9423	
Candia Henderson’s Pickin’ Parlor 179 Raymond Rd, 483-5001		
Concord The Barley House 132 N. Main St., 228-6363 Beijing & Tokyo 61 S. Main St., 228-0888 Border’s 76 Fort Eddy Rd, 224-1255 Green Martini 6 Pleasant St., 223-6672 Hermanos 11 Hills Ave., 224-5669 Loudon Road Restaurant and Pit Road Lounge 388 Loudon Rd, 226-0533 Makris 354 Sheep Davis, 225-7665 Penuche’s Ale House 6 Pleasant St., 228-9833 The Red Blazer 72 Manchester St., 224-4101		
Contoocook Beech Hill Farm 107 Beech Hill Rd		
Davisville Muddy Pond Jazz Deal grounds of Davisville Flea		

Thursday, Sept. 29

Candia Henderson’s: acoustic open mike	Dover Barley Pub: bluegrass jam w/ Steve Roy Brick House: Grand Hotel, Naked on Roller Skates, The Neuromatics Kelley’s Row: DJ Evaredy RJ’s: DJ J-Smooth Station House: open mike w/ Dave Nappy Band
Concord Green Martini: open mike w/ Steve Naylor Hermanos: Brad Myrick & Joe Gattuso Guitar Duo Tandy’s: DJ	Gilford Patrick’s: Michael Bourgeois
Derry Brookstone Grille: Bruce Marshall	

Ellacoya Barn & Grille 2667 Lakeshore Rd, 293-8700 Gunstock Ski Area 719 Cherry Valley, 293-4341 Patrick’s 18 Weirs Road, 293-0841 Goffstown Village Trestle 25 Main St., 497-8230 Wa Toy 611 Mast Road, 668-1088 Hampstead The Pasta Loft 220 E. Main St., 378-0092 Route 111 Village Square 472 State St., 329-6879 Hampton Boardwalk Inn 139 Ocean Blvd., 929-7400 Breakers By the Sea 409 Ocean Blvd, 926-7702 La Bec Rouge 73 Ocean Blvd, 926-5050 Old Salt 409 Lafayette Rd, 926-8322 Sea Shell Stage on Ocean Blvd. Ron’s Landing 379 Ocean Blvd, 929-2122, Wally’s Pub 144 Ashworth Ave., 926-6954 Whales Tales 169 Ocean Blvd, 967-4771	Baja Beach Club @ China Bistro 89 Lake St., 524-0008 Black Cat Café 17 Veterans Sq., 528-3233 Broken Spoke Saloon 1072 Watson Rd, 366-5511 Cactus Jacks 1182 Union Ave., 528-7800 The Crazy Gringo 306 Lakeside Ave., 366-4411 Fratello’s 799 Union Ave., 528-2022 Margate Resort 76 Lake St., 524-5210 Naswa Resort 1086 Weirs Blvd., 366-4341 Paradise Beach Club 322 Lakeside Ave., 366-2665 Patio Garden Restaurant Lakeside Ave. Pitman’s Freight Room 94 New Salem St., 527-0043 Weirs Beach Lobster Pound 72 Endicott St., 366-2255 Weirs Beach Smokehouse Rt 3 Laconia, 366-2400 Londonderry Coach Stop Restaurant and Tavern 176 Mammoth Rd, 437-2022 Mayflower Grange 535 Mammoth Rd, 867-3077 Stumble Inn Bar & Grill 20 Rockingham Road Whippersnappers 44 Nashua Road, 434-2660
Henniker Daniel’s Main St., 428-7621 Pat’s Peak Sled Pub 24 Flander’s Road, 888-728-7732 The Henniker Junction 24 Weare Rd., 428-8511	Loudon Graverobbers Coffeehouse Loudon Congregational Church, 7018 Church St., 783-9478

Hillsborough American Legion Post 59 538 West Main St Boomerang’s 37 Henniker St., 464-3912 Mr. Bill’s Saloon 55 Henniker St.	Manchester 900 Degrees 50 Dow St., 641-0900 American Legion Wm H Jutras & Post No 43 56 Boutwell St., 623-9467 American Legion Post #79 35 W. Brook St. American Legion Sweeney Post 251 Maple St., 623-9145 Black Brimmer 1087 Elm St., 669-5523 Bo’s Riverside 500 Commercial St., 625-4444 Boynton’s Taproom 155 Dow St., 623-7778 Breezeway Pub 14 Pearl St., 621-9111 City Sports Grille 216 Maple St., 625-9656 Club 313 93 S. Maple St., 628-6813 Club Liquid 23 Amherst St., 645-7600 Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Rd, 623-2880 Don Quijote 333 Valley St., 792-1110 Element Lounge 1055 Elm St., 627-2922 Fratello’s
Hollis Alpine Grove 19 S. Depot Rd, 882-9051	
Hooksett Asian Breeze 1328 Hooksett Rd, 621-9298	
Hudson AJ’s Sports Bar & Grill 11 Tracy Lane, 718-1102 JD Chaser’s 2B Burnham Rd, 886-0792 King’s Court 222 Central St., 821-5100	
Kingston The Kingston 1686 House Tavern 127 Main St., 642-3637 Rick’s on Mill Pond 92 Route 125., 642-3353	
Laconia Anthony’s Pier Restaurant	

Hampstead Pasta Loft: Lisa & David Village Square: DJ	Sinclar
Kingston Rick’s on Mill Pond: DJ Bob Fauci	Manchester Black Brimmer: DJ Chad & DJ Drew Club 313: DJ Suga Shane Element: DJ Jason J. Dubs: Tristan Omand Shaskeen: A Simple Complex Starbucks: Fate Revisited Strange Brew: Tom Bal-larini Wild Rover: blues jam w/ Wan-Tu Blues Band
Laconia Pitman’s Freight Room: Mike Stockbridge	
Londonderry Coach Stop: Gary Lopez Whippersnappers: Stu	

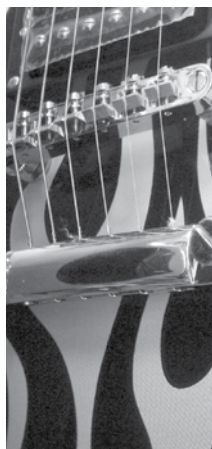
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Meredith Giuseppe’s: Putnam Pirozzoli	Fody’s: Josh Logan Band
Merrimack Homestead: Tony Santesse	Newmarket Stone Church: The Wat-kinsonsonics w/ Rusted Juke
Milford Chapanga’s: open mike w/ Driven Pasta Loft: Morgan & Pete	Newton Hen House: acoustic open mike w/ John Porazinski
Nashua Amber Room: DJ Amsterdam: DJ	Portsmouth Press Room: Country Blues Extravaganza: David Surette & Susie Burke Red Door: Local Heroes

Shorty’s Nashua Mall, 882-4070 Simple Gifts Coffee House 58 Lowell St. 603 Lounge 14 W. Hollis St., 821-5260 The Sky Lounge 522 Amherst St., 882-6026 Slade’s Food & Spirits 4 W. Hollis St., 886-1334 Stella Blu 70 E. Pearl St., 578-5557 Sun Plaza Bar & Grille 295 DW Hwy, 888-4904 Villa Banca 194 Main St., 598-0500	Portsmouth Pearl 45 Pearl St., 431-0148, Press Room 77 Daniel St., 431-5186 The Red Door 107 State St., 373-6827 Red Hook Brewery 35 Corporate Dr., 430-8600 Ri Ra Irish Pub 22 Market Square, 319-1680 Rudi’s 20 High St., 430-7834 Rusty Hammer 49 Pleasant St., 436-9289 The Wet Bar 172 Hanover St.
New Boston Gravity Tavern 35 Mont Vernon Rd, 487-2011	Raymond Famous Legends Bar & Grill at Strikers East 4 Essex Drive Freetown Yankee Market 58 Route 27, 895-3418
Newmarket Lamprey River Tavern 110 Main St., 659-3696 KJ’s Sports Bar N. Main St., 659-2329 Stone Church 5 Granite St., 650-7700	Salem Black Water Grill 43 Pelham Road, 328-9013 Jocelyn’s Lounge 355 S. Broadway, 870-0045 Murray’s Tavern 326 S. Broadway, 894-9100 Sayde’s Restaurant 136 Cluff Crossing Rd, 890-1032 The Varsity Club 67 Main St., 898-4344
Newton Hen House Sports Bar & Grill 85 S. Main St., 382-1705	Sandown The Crossing 328 Main St.
Pelham Shooters 116 Bridge St., 635-3577	Seabrook American Legion Post 70 169 Walton Road Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Rd, 474-6001 Honey Pot Bar & Lounge 920 Lafayette Rd, 760-2013 Master McGrath’s Route 107, Seabrook, 474-6540 Prime Time Sports Grill 620 Lafayette Rd, 760-7230
Peterborough Harlow’s Pub 3 School St., 924-6365 Peterborough Players Theater Hadley Road	Stratham Acoustic Outfitters 72 Portsmouth Ave. 778-9711
Plaistow Corner Pocket 181 Plaistow Rd., 382-3130 Dugout Grill 93 Main St., 819-4947 The Sad Café 148 Plaistow Rd, 382-8893	Sunapee One Mile West Tavern 6 Brook Road, 863-7500 Sunapee Coffee House Methodist Church, Route 11
Portsmouth American Legion Post 6 96 Islington St. Blue Mermaid Island Grill hill at Hanover and High streets, 427-2583 Daniel Street Tavern 111 Daniel St. Dolphin Striker 15 Bow St., 431-5222 Fat Belly’s 2 Bow St. 610-4337 Gas Light Co. 64 Market St., 431-9122 The Hilton Garden Inn 100 High St., 431-1499 Jitto’s Supersteak 3131 Lafayette Rd, 436-9755 The Music Hall 104 Congress St., 433-3100 Paddy’s American Grill 27 International Dr., 430-9450 Players Ring Theater 105 Marcy St., 436-8123	Tilton Thirsty Crows 504 Laconia Road, 524-5558
Wilton Pine Hill Auditorium Pine Hill Waldorf School, 77 Pine Hill Dr.	Windham Jonathon’s Lounge Park Place Lanes, Route 28, 800-892-0568

w/ Jack Blackwater Rudi’s: Nick Mainella	Concord Green Martini: Scott Barnett Band Makris: Just Us Red Blazer: Jim Tyrell Tandy’s: DJ
Salem Murray’s: blues jam w/ Steve Devine	Dover Barley Pub: John Dinger Brick House: Chad Hol-lister Band, Charlotte Locke, Craig Roy Kelley’s Row: 80mph RJ’s: DJ Big Pez
Seabrook Chop Shop: Texas Hip-pie Coalition	
Friday, Sept. 30 Boscawen Alan’s: Brian Gray	

On the scene



Band members of the world, unite and take over

Do you have an upcoming show? Make sure that even if the venue doesn't let us know, it gets listed in the Music This Week by sending us updates of your upcoming gigs. Send locations, dates and times for your upcoming shows to music@hippopress.com. Send information by noon on Monday to get listed for the coming week. Or send us links to your regularly updated website or MySpace page.

... or you, with a club...

Does your bar/restaurant/coffeeshop frequently host musical performances? Send the information to music@hippopress.com along with your address and phone number so we can get you into the Music This Week. And if you regularly update your website or

MySpace page, you can send us those links as well. Get the information in by noon on Monday to make the coming Thursday's paper.

... and if you are a music fan...

If you're out on the scene and see a show at a location not regularly listed in the Music This Week, let us know at music@hippopress.com. Our goal is to give you the most complete live music listings in the region each and every week.

Exeter

Shooter's: DJ BiggZ

Gilford

Patrick's: The Lost & Found

Goffstown

Village Trestle: acoustic jam hosted by John Erlman

Hampstead

Pasta Loft: T.M.F.I.

Kingston

1686 House Tavern: Mike Belkas

Laconia

Fratello's: Paul Wamick
Paradise Beach Club: Stevie P

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Josh Logan
Whippersnappers: Eric Grant Band

Manchester

Black Brimmer: Never In Vegas
Club 313: DJ
Derryfield: Last Kid Picked
Fratello's: Sev
Jam Factory: Zanois, Threadweaver, Hard
Milly's: DJ Clashious Clay
Murphy's: The Hitmen
Shaskeen: Destroy Babylon
Strange Brew: The Love Dogs

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Michael Bourgeois, DJ Holy Cow

Merrimack

The Homestead: Gary Lopez

Milford

Clark's: Ryan Bossie
Pasta Loft: Sick to Sick

Nashua

Amber Room: DJ Lou,

In the spotlight



John Lennon's birthday

Celebrate what would have been Beatles great John Lennon's 71st birthday by checking out a performance by the Nu-Utopians at Tupelo Music Hall, 2 Young Road, Londonderry, on Thursday, Oct. 6, at 8 p.m. The Nu-Utopians, a seven-piece ensemble formerly known as The John Lennon Song Project, recently won Best Tribute Album at the Independent Music Awards with their debut CD, *Imagined*. Audience members should expect to hear renditions of both Beatles classics and songs from Lennon's solo years. Tickets cost \$30 and \$35 at tupelohalllondonderry.com or by calling 437-5100.

DJ Danjah

Amsterdam: DJ

Fody's: Jim Devlin

Martha's Exchange:

DJ Spivak

Peddlers: Cooper's

Escape

Polish-American Club:

Max Voltage

Newmarket

Stone Church: Buzz

Universe w/ Red Sky

Mary

Newton

Hen House: DJ

Plaistow

The Dugout: DJ Boo

Sad Cafe: Rachel Alix, Ryan Anzaldi, Amanda McCarthy, Lizzy Pitch, Meredith Eib, D.J. Sennett

Portsmouth

Blue Mermaid: Old

Abode, Autumn Hollow

Band

Gaslight: Tim Theriault

Band, Pat Foley, DJ

Koko P

Hilton Garden Inn:

Curt & Kathleen

The Page: DJ

Red Door: Ryan Obermiller

Press Room: Crunchy

Western Boys

Rudi's: Sharon Jones

Salem

Black Water Grill: Rob

Breton

Jocelyn's: DJ

Murray's: DJ Erik

Seabrook

Honey Pot: DJ

Saturday, Oct. 1

Belmont

The Lodge: Natalie

Turgeon Band

Concord

Green Martini: Matt

Poirier

Tandy's: DJ

Dover

Brick House: Good

Score, Kick The Ladder

Kelley's Row: Take 4

RJ's: DJ

Epping

Holy Grail: Siroteau

Epsom

Circle 9 Ranch: Craig

Kendall & the North-

wood Playboys

Gilford

Patrick's: The Sundogs

Hampton

Wally's Pub: Bailout

Laconia

Naswa: Brian Gray

Paradise Beach Club:

Radio Edit

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Steve

Sibulkin

Whippersnappers:

Nimbus 9

Manchester

Club 313: DJ Bob

Derryfield: Phoenix

Fratello's: Paul Luff

Jam Factory: Cruise

Control, Preamble, The

Moodies

Mad Bob's: Max Voltage

Murphy's: Kelly's

House

Shaskeen: Irish sessions

w/ Roger Burridge,

Toolfist

Strange Brew: BJ

Magoon

The Yard: Dan Morgan

Meredith

Giuseppe's: David

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Thursday Night

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NITE

In the spotlight



Country at The Press Room

The Press Room, 77 Daniel St., Portsmouth, will host a Country Blues Extravaganza featuring folk duo Susie Burke & David Surrette on Thursday, Sept. 29, at 8:30 p.m. The show will focus on the legacy of rural country blues music and its influences on the folk and blues tunes of the 1960s and 1970s and fingerpicking guitar players. The music of Mississippi John Hurt, Rev. Gary Davis, Robert Johnson, Doc Watson, and Dock Boggs will be featured and local guitarists Bob Halperin and Dave Talmage will perform. Tickets cost \$5 at the door. Call 207-384-8151.

Merrimack

Homestead: Marybeth Maes

Milford

Clark's: DJ Randy Maillet
Pasta Loft: Tom Rousseau

Nashua

Amber Room: DJ Fody's: Ghost Dinner Band
Martha's Exchange: DJ Peddlers: EBS
Studio 99: Johanna Landis

Newmarket

Stone Church: Roots Nation

Plaistow

Sad Cafe: Threat Level Burgundy, The Green Bullets, Blacklight Sunrise

Portsmouth

Blue Mermaid: Gaslight: Friday Addiction, DJ JW
Hilton Garden Inn: Rick Watson
The Page: DJ
Press Room: jazz lunch w/ Larry Garland,

Red Door:

Pete Moss
Rudi's: Dimitri & Danny

Salem

Murray's: Fixed Income

Sunday, Oct. 2

Concord

Penuche's: open mike w/ Steve Naylor

Dover

Barley Pub: Nick

Mainella

Brick House: Antibodies, Dressed for the Occasion, Genuine Rust, The Vibrators, DJ Erich Kruger
RJ's: DJ

Goffstown

Village Trestle: blues jam

Hampton

Wally's Pub: Before the Crash

Londonderry

Whippersnappers: Sandy Lee Casey

Manchester

2 Doors Down: Lauren Hurley
900 Degrees: blues open mike night w/ Tom Ballerini
Jam Factory: open mike, Natalie Jaeger, Dan Mullins
Milly's: Dom and Reid from Manchuka

CONCERTS

Venues

Capitol Center for the Performing Arts 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com
The Colonial Theatre 95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033, thecolonial.org
Dana Humanities Center at Saint Anselm College 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu/dana
Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom 169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton Beach, 929-4100, casinoballroom.com
Leddy Center 38c Ladd's Lane, Epping, 679-2781, ledlycenter.org
Lowell Boarding House Park 40 French St., Lowell, Mass., www.lowellsummermusic.org

Lowell Memorial Auditorium

East Merrimack Street, Lowell, Mass., 978-454-2299, lowellauditorium.com
Meadowbrook U.S. Cellular Pavilion 72 Meadowbrook Lane, Gilford, 293-4700, meadowbrook.net
The Middle Arts & Entertainment Center 316 Central St., Franklin, 934-1901, themiddlenh.org
The Music Hall 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusicall.org
The Old Meeting House, 1 New Boston Rd., Francetown
Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org

Prescott Park Arts Festival

105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, www.prescottpark.org, 436.2848
Rochester Opera House 31 Wakefield St., Rochester 335-1992, rochesteroperahouse.com
Stockbridge Theatre Pinkerton Academy, Route 28, Derry, 437-5210, stockbridgetheatre.com
Tupelo Music Hall 2 Young Road, Londonderry, 437-5100, tupelohall.com
Verizon Wireless Arena 555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, www.verizonwirelessarena.com
Whittmore Center Arena UNH 128 Main St., Durham, 862-4000, www.whittcenter.com

- **The Jon Herrington Band** Thurs., Sept. 29, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Keb' Mo'** Thurs., Sept. 29, at 7:30 p.m., at Cap Center
- **B 52s** Fri., Sept. 30, at 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom
- **Super Secret Project** Fri., Sept. 30, at 8 p.m., Boynton's
- **The Fools** Sat., Oct. 1, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Vessel** Sat., Oct. 1, at 8 p.m., Rochester Opera House
- **Madeline Peyroux** Tues., Oct. 4, at 7:30 p.m., Music Hall
- **The Nu Utopians** Thurs., Oct. 6, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Motor Booty Affair** Fri., Oct. 7, at 8 p.m., Rochester Opera House
- **George Thorogood and the Destroyers** Sat., Oct. 8, at 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom
- **Scott MacIntyre** Sat., Oct. 8, at 8 p.m., Music Hall
- **Peter Wolf** Sun., Oct. 9, at 7 p.m., Tupelo.
- **Peter Wolf** Mon., Oct. 10, at 8 p.m., Tupelo.
- **Maestro Shafaat Kahn** Wed., Oct. 12, at 7:30 p.m., Cap Center

- **Flock of Seagulls** Wed., Oct. 12, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Sugarland** Thurs., Oct. 13, at 7:30 p.m., Verizon Wireless Arena
- **Andrew Bird** Fri., Oct. 14, at 8 p.m., Cap Center
- **Kings of Salsa** Fri., Oct. 14, at 7:30 p.m., Music Hall
- **Mary Gatchell** Fri., Oct. 14, at 7:30 p.m., Leddy Center
- **Andrew Bird** Fri., Oct. 14, at 8 p.m., Cap Center
- **Paula Cole** Fri., Oct. 14, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **David Bromberg** Sat., Oct. 15, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Weird Al Yankovic** Sun., Oct. 16, at 7:30 p.m., Cap Center
- **Martin Sexton** Fri., Oct. 21, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Roy Johnstone & Steve Sharratt** Fri., Oct. 21, at 7:30 p.m., Adams Memorial Opera House
- **Marin Sexton** Sat., Oct. 22, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Shawn Mullins** Sun., Oct. 23, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Stew & the Negro Problem** Sun., Oct. 23, art 8 p.m., Tupelo

- **Average White Band** Sat., Oct. 29, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Queensryche** Sat., Oct. 29, at 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom
- **Guitar Masters** Sun., Oct. 30, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **The Pixies** Sun., Oct. 30, at 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom
- **Jon Anderson and Rick Wakeman** Tues., Nov. 1, at 7:30 p.m., Cap Center
- **An Evening with Chad and Jeremy** Thurs., Nov. 3, at 7:30 p.m., Cap Center
- **Acoustic Alchemy** Thurs., Nov. 3, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Furthur feat. Bob Weir & Phil Lesh** Thurs., Nov. 3, at 7:30 p.m., Verizon Wireless Arena
- **Albert Cummings** Fri., Nov. 4, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Lucinda Williams** Fri., Nov. 4, at 8 p.m., Cap Center
- **Third Day, Tenth Avenue, and Trevor Morgan** Fri., Nov. 4, at 7 p.m., Lowell Auditorium
- **Entrain** Sat., Nov. 5 at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Rusted Root** Sun., Nov. 6, at 7 p.m., Tupelo

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Saturday, October 29
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RS-Theater

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Andy McKee, Stephen Bennett, and Antoine Dufour



Sunday, October 30
7:00 p.m. • \$30 • RS-Theater

PAULA COLE



Friday, October 14
8:00 p.m.
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THE TUBES



Tuesday, November 1
8:00 p.m. • \$40/\$45 • RS-Theater

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Saturday, October 15
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NITE

In the spotlight



Hippies at the Chop Shop

The Texas Hippie Coalition will bring Southern Fried Metal to the Chop Shop Pub, 920 Lafayette Road, Seabrook, 760-7706, chop-shoppub.com, on Thursday, Sept. 29, as part of a U.S. tour that began in Las Vegas. Group members “Big Dad” Ritch, Randy Cooper, Wes Wallace, John Exhall and Tim Braun liken their sound to the styles of Lynyrd Skynyrd, Molly Hatchet, ZZ Top, Waylon Jennings and Willie Nelson, with the power of Pantera behind it all.

Penuche's: blues jam w/ The Deep Pockets
Shaskeen: sing-along w/ the Spain Brothers
Strange Brew: Acoustic Duo

Meredith Giuseppe's: open mike w/ Lou Porrazzo

Nashua Fody's: open mike w/ Chad Verbeck

Newmarket Stone Church: open mike w/ Dave Ogden

Portsmouth Blue Mermaid: open mike

Press Room: jazz grill
Red Door: Green Lion Crew

Rudi's: jazz brunch w/ Mike Effenberger

Stratham Acoustic Outfitters: acoustic open mike w/ Ellen Carlson

Monday, Oct. 3 Candia Henderson's: electric rock open mike

Concord Red Blazer: open mike w/Matt Langley

Dover Castaway's Boathouse: Denis Patrick's Merry Pranksters' open mike
Orchard Street Chop Shop: open mike w/ Dave Ogden

Hampton La Bec Rouge: open

mike w/ Elijah Clark
Wally's Pub: DJ

Londonderry Whippersnappers: open mike

Manchester Fratello's: Josh Logan
Milly's: Dom and Reid of Manchuka

Meredith Camp: acoustic open mike w/ Linden Mazurka
Giuseppe's: Lou Porrazzo

Merrimack The Homestead: Joe McDonald

Milford J's Tavern: acoustic open mike

Tuesday, Oct. 4 Concord Barley House: Irish sessions
Tandy's: open mike w/ Calvin McFarlin

Dover Brick House: acoustic open mike w/ Anthony Vito Fiandaca
RJ's: DJ

Hampstead Pasta Loft: acoustic open mike w/ Mike Belkas

Hampton Wally's Pub: Baked Naked, Liquid Courage

Londonderry Whippersnappers: video DJ

Manchester Black Brimmer: DJ Chad
Fratello's: Gardner Berry
Milly's: Manchuka
Murphy's: open mike w/Josh Logan, Nate Comp and Paul Costley
Strange Brew: Strange Brew All Stars

Meredith Giuseppe's: Michael Bourgeois

Merrimack Homestead: Gary Lopez

Milford J's Tavern: G Man from Mama Kicks

Nashua Fody's: DJ Mark Allen

Newmarket Stone Church: blue-grass jam w/ Dave Talmage

Portsmouth Press Room: jazz jam w/ Larry Garland, hoot open mike w/ Bob Halperin

Seabrook Honey Pot: open mike

Wednesday, Oct. 5 Antrim Redneck's: open mike w/ the Boogiemen

Auburn Holiday's: DJ Captain Chris

Boscawen Alan's: open mike

Concord Green Martini: open mike w/ Steve Naylor
Tandy's: DJ

Dover Barley Pub: BA Canning & Krebstar
Brick House: Boring Kind of Guy
Fury's: open mike w/ Paul Chase
Three Chimney's Inn: open mike

Hampton La Bec Rouge: DJ Kelly Elliott
Wally's Pub: DJ

Kingston The Carriage Towne Bar & Grille: Mike Belkas

Manchester Black Brimmer: DJ Drew
Fratello's: Chris Lester
Penuche's: open mike w/ Friday After Five
Strange Brew: Frank Morey

Meredith Giuseppe's: Don Bergeron

Merrimack The Homestead: Paul Luff

Milford Clark's: open mike w/ Gary Lopez
J's Tavern: Lisa from Mama Kicks
Pasta Loft: open mike

Nashua 603 Lounge: open mike w/ Kevin Horan
Off the Wall Lounge: open mike
Peddlers Daughter: Revels Glen
Sausage King: open mike w/ John Borlaug

Newmarket Stone Church: Blue Light Rain

Peterborough Harlow's Pub: open mike

Portsmouth Blue Mermaid: open mike w/ Tom Brown and Duke Mandell
Red Door: Red on Red w/ Evaredy
Rudi's: Dimitri

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Friday, Sept. 30 Manchester Boynton's: Super Secret Project w/ Nick Lavallee

Saturday, Oct. 1 Manchester Headliners: Corey Rodrigues

Monday, Oct. 3 Concord Penuche's: live standup

Tuesday, Oct. 4 Manchester Murphy's: live standup

Wednesday, Oct. 5 Manchester Shaskeen: open mike

Nashua Penuche's: live standup

Saturday, Oct. 8 Manchester Headliners: Larry Norton

Monday, Oct. 10 Concord Penuche's: live standup

Tuesday, Oct. 11 Manchester Murphy's: live standup

Wed., Oct. 12 Manchester Shaskeen: open mike

Nashua Penuche's: live standup

Thursday, Oct. 13 Nashua Fody's: Alana Susko

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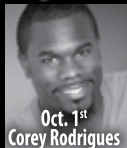
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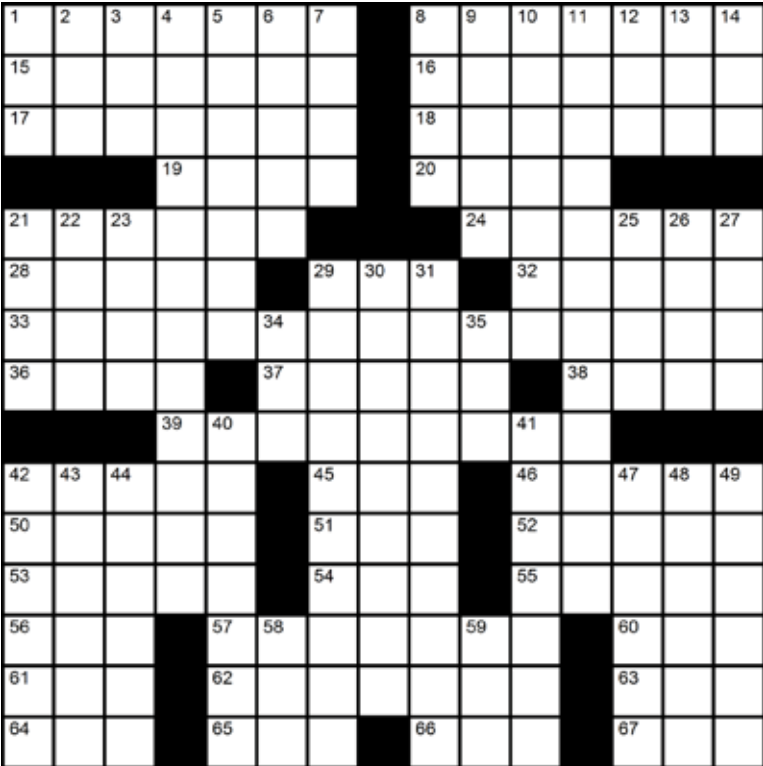
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Across

- 1 Dramatic way to end a statement?
8 Kelly of Destiny’s Child
15 Sign stating you can’t go back immediately
16 Gonzaga University locale
17 Changed suddenly
18 They play a big part in 2011’s “Contagion”
19 “___ the night before Christmas...”
20 Football play
21 Like some musical wonders

- 24 Overtook with a crowd of people
28 Rented out again
29 Hosp. staffers
32 Guy
33 Drops like balls in a bad juggling act?
36 Part of a cereal box
37 Owned property
38 “McHale’s Navy” backdrop
39 Made grateful for
42 Henry VIII’s house



- 45 Summer hrs., in D.C.
46 TV doctor with a limp
50 Concluding remarks to a poem
51 Cutesy-___
52 Heart attachment
53 “___ has fleas”
54 Computer

9/22



programming abbr. (FOE anagram)

- 55 “___, with Love” (Sidney Poitier movie)
56 “Un momento, ___ favor”
57 Swashbuckling and saving the day, for instance
60 Coffee dispenser
61 Ring decision
62 Nickname of ESPN8, in the 2004 movie “Dodgeball”
63 Tell it like it isn’t
64 Part of a school yr.
65 “Play this note with a sudden accent,” in sheet music abbr.
66 “A rat!” noise
67 Furthermore

Down

- 1 Young-___ (little tykes)
2 Traditional Japanese drama
3 On the ___ vive
4 Uninformed, like a bad juggler?
5 Bests by deceit
6 Apply medicine to

- 7 Comes to a halt
8 Invitation request
9 Poe’s drug of choice
10 Completely gone, like a buzz
11 Warning from a bad juggler?
12 Small batteries
13 Dir. opposite SSW
14 Word before Moines or Plaines
21 “Carmina Burana”

composer Carl

- 22 “A Face in the Crowd” actress Patricia
23 She sang with Louie
25 Erupt
26 Race in “The Time Machine”
27 Modern variety of Persian spoken in Afghanistan
29 She played a corrupt cop in “Pineapple Express”
30 Somewhere between abysmal and fair, for a bad juggler?
31 It’s flat, frozen, and sometimes compared to winter roads
34 “¿Que ___?” (“What’s up?” in Mexico)
35 Airport readerboard abbr.
40 Strong headlights, slangily
41 “No sweat”
42 Lures
43 Let all the, all the oxen free?
44 Movie disc format that’s readable, but not erasable
47 “The Little Mermaid” villain
48 Blend with a spoon, maybe
49 Deserved
58 Radio band, for short (HEF anagram)
59 Guevara’s nickname

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All quotes are from stories by Damon Runyon, born Oct. 4, 1880.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) Well, naturally I consider this a most embarrassing situation, because here I am out to clip Miss Amelia Bodkin of her letters and her silverware, including her Paul Revere teapot, and there she is taking care of me in first-class style, and saying she is sorry for me.—“Breach of Promise.” Turn your shame into an opportunity to do something good for others.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) I am trying to think up some place to go where people will see me, and remember afterwards that I am there in case it is necessary for them to remember.—“Romance in the Roaring Forties.” Keep witnesses around you during important transactions.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) It is a sure thing I do not wish to be around when Dave the Dude hears Waldo is already married.—“Romance in the Roaring Forties.” Try not to be the bearer of bad news.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) Personally, I greatly admire Charley for taking the disaster so calmly, especially as it catches him with very few potatoes.—“Dream Street Rose.” Stock up on potatoes. And keep better track of your bank account balance.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) She lives in the big house all alone, except

for a couple of old servants, and it is very seldom that anybody sees her around and about, and many strange stories are told of her.—“The Old Doll’s House.” Don’t believe all the strange stories you hear.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) Now, if I have any idea Rusty Charley is coming my way, you can go and bet all the coffee in Java I will be somewhere else at once, for Rusty Charley is not a guy I wish to have any truck with whatever. In fact, I wish no part of him.—“Blood Pressure.” You know who’s good for you and who’s not.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) And you cannot tell by the way a party looks or how he lives in this town if he has any scratch, because many a party who is around in automobiles, and wearing good clothes, and chucking quite a swell is nothing but the phonus bolonus and does not have any real scratch whatever.—“The Snatching of Bookie Bob” Watch out for phonies.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) But of course it will not be good policy for me to show Harry the Horse and Spanish John and Little Isadore that I am nervous.... —“The Snatching of Bookie Bob” Don’t let them see you sweat.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) And I will say for The Brain he has what is called personality. He tells a story well, although he is always the hero.... —“The Brain Goes Home.” Enjoy a good sto-

ry. Practice your own storytelling skills.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) And although Lance is in no mood to listen to reminiscences at this time, the next thing he knows he is hearing a very pathetic love story, because it seems that Miss Abigail Ardsley is once all hotted up over a young guy who is nothing but a clerk in her papa’s office.—“The Old Doll’s

House.” Be grateful that someone trusts you enough to confide in you.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) But my friend goes very daffy over Frank and cannot see anybody but him, and the upshot of it all is she runs away with him one day to Denver, being dumb enough to believe that he means it when he tells her that he loves her and

SIGNS OF LIFE

is going to marry her.—“Dream Street Rose” Watch out for impulsive urges.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) Naturally I do not ask what their proposition is, because if I ask such a question they may think I wish to find out, and will consider me a very nosey guy.... —“Gentlemen, the King!” Don’t ask if you don’t really want to be involved.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

			5		2			
	4	1				3	2	
5			8					6
3						7		4
9		5						2
4					3			8
	8	9				1	5	
			6		1			

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

9/29

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SU DO KU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Last week’s puzzle answers are below

9/22

7	6	3	1	4	5	8	9	2
4	5	9	7	2	8	3	1	6
1	2	8	9	6	3	4	7	5
5	4	1	2	8	6	7	3	9
9	8	6	3	7	4	5	2	1
3	7	2	5	1	9	6	4	8
8	1	5	4	9	7	2	6	3
2	3	7	6	5	1	9	8	4
6	9	4	8	3	2	1	5	7

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

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072116

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

Good Eats

The medical establishment generally regards placentas (afterbirth) as biohazardous waste, but to New York City placenta chef Jennifer Mayer, they are a nutrient-laden meat that can alleviate postpartum depression and aid in breast milk production (among other so-far-unverified benefits). Mayer typically sets up in clients' own kitchens, she told New York magazine for an August story. Some placentas are "really intense, with grief or sadness or uncertainty." Others might be "joyful," "big and round." Mayer's method: Drain the blood, blot dry, cook for a half-hour (leaving something resembling brisket), chop into slivers, dehydrate overnight (rendering it jerky-like). For a popular touch, Mayer then grinds it in a blender and pours the powder into several dozen (one-a-day) capsules.

Can't Possibly Be True

• The Learning Channel's "Toddlers & Tiaras" series has pushed critics' buttons enough with its general support of the competitive world of child beauty pageants, but a recent episode provoked unusually rabid complaints, according to a September New York Post report. Mother Lindsay Jackson had costumed her 4-year-old Maddy as "Dolly Parton" — anatomically correct (chest and backside) Dolly Parton. The Post described Maddy as "embarrass(ed)" at her chest when another 4-year-old pointed at her and asked, "What is that?" (Ultimately, the judges liked Maddy — for "sweetest face.")

• Things You Didn't Think Existed: (1) World Record for Length of Tonsils: Justin Werner, 21, of Topeka, Kan., was certified in July by the Guinness Book, with tonsils measuring 2.1 inches and 1.9 inches, respectively. The old "champion" was Justin Dodge of Milwaukee. (2) Global Competition in Dominos: The breakaway Georgian region of Abkhazia will be the site, in October, of the world domino championship. (Twenty-five countries belong to the International Domino Federation.)

• Retired U.S. Army Sgt. Maj. Rob Dickerson finally received his Purple Heart this summer, four years after he was seriously wounded in a rocket attack in Iraq and two years after he began a paperwork battle with the Army to "prove" his injury. Recently, the Army had apologized and mailed him the award, but it arrived C.O.D., leaving Dickerson to pay the \$21 fee. (The Army subsequently reimbursed Dickerson the fee, but Dickerson said he hasn't been able to cash the check, in that it was erroneously made out to "Roy Dirksen.")

Unclear on the Concept

• "Do You See the Blimp Who Robbed You?": In August, 400-pound Eric Kenley, 48, won a new trial for his two New York City robbery convictions after appeals court judges realized that the police lineup that identified him was unfair, in that he was apparently much fatter than the other men in his lineup. The police had attempted to compensate by using larger-than-average men and by presenting them all seated,

to minimize the weight difference.

• Obviously intense about potential child-trafficking, the government of Quebec, Canada, requires strict proof of a live birth, certified by a doctor or licensed midwife. However, the waiting list to hire either one is long, and Heather Mattingly went with an unlicensed midwife, whose word the Directeur de l'état civil declined to accept. Four months after the birth, the agency ordered Mattingly to submit to a vaginal examination. After "calls from the media" (according to a Montreal Gazette report) persuaded the agency that such an exam was useless, it finally agreed, on Aug. 26, to grant a birth certificate if Mattingly submitted a doctor-certified copy of her pre-birth ultrasound.

• You're Doing It Wrong: Jason Dean, 24, was arrested in Ringgold, Ga., in August and charged with false imprisonment after he waited in the parking lot of a Taco Bell, approached an 18-year-old woman and handcuffed her to himself. After her screams brought others to come help her, Dean explained that he had been trying for several months to get the woman to go out with him but that she had so far refused.

• A New York Times obituary for former lead singer Jani Lane of the heavy metal band Warrant revealed that Mr. Lane's birth name (he was born a year after Lee Harvey Oswald assassinated President John F. Kennedy) was John Kennedy Oswald. Rebellious musicians (Warrant's debut album was "Dirty Rotten Filthy Stinking Rich") often adopt provocative stage names to enhance their image, but Mr. Lane must be one of the very few to have abandoned a provocative birth name in favor of a bland one.

Least Competent Criminals

No Respect: (1) The man who approached tellers at the Eastern Bank in

South Boston on Aug. 25 eventually fled empty-handed, but only after one teller had refused his order for "all your money" (she told him she was "closed") and another had scolded him for breaking into the front of the adjacent line and for not removing his hoodie. (2) A man dressed as Gumby was ignored by a 7-Eleven clerk when he tried to rob the store in Rancho Penasquitos, Calif., on Sept. 5. The clerk told "Gumby" not to waste his time, and "Gumby" finally fled. The clerk had such little respect for "Gumby" that he did not even report the "robbery"; it came to light only when his boss was reviewing surveillance video.

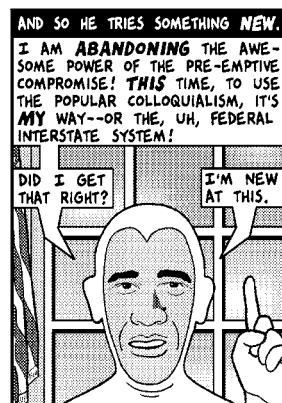
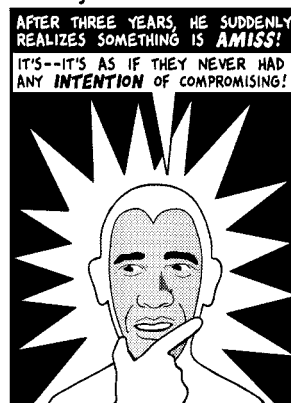
Update

Richard Kreimer (whose appearances in "News of the Weird" in 1991 and 2006 achieved "Classic" status earlier this year) is back, apparently still defiantly malodorous. He recently filed four lawsuits against NJ Transit, alleging that he has been illegally prevented from boarding trains just because he is homeless. (NJ Transit says his behavior and lack of hygiene irritate passengers.) A former Kreimer lawyer told the Newark Star-Ledger in August that Kreimer virtually runs "sting" operations, waiting for people to offend him so he can sue. Kreimer, who tape records all his conversations, told the Star-Ledger that the lawsuits will continue, although he looks forward to one day being able to "close my law practice." However, for now, he says, "Business is booming."

Are you ready for News of the Weird Pro Edition? Every Monday at <http://NewsoftheWeird.blogspot.com> and www.WeirdUniverse.net. Other handy addresses: WeirdNews@earthlink.net, www.NewsoftheWeird.com and P.O. Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679.

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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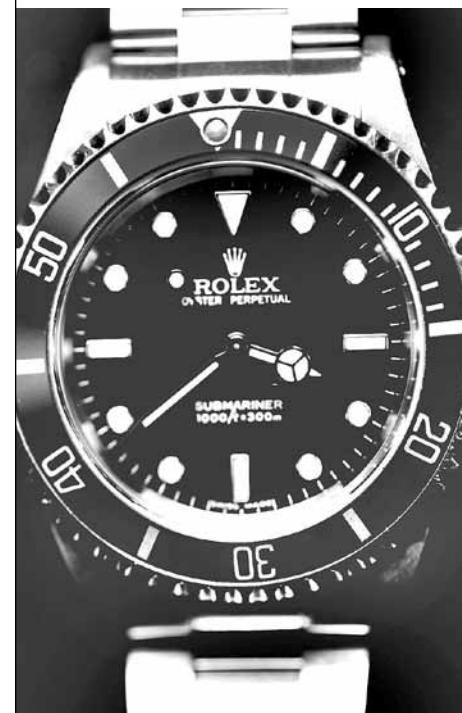


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